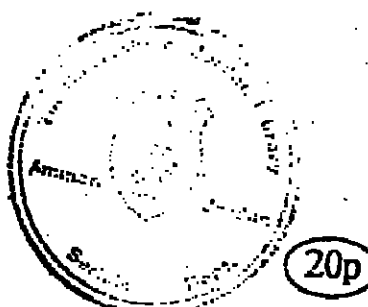


...from Delhi
...god turn
...ip into you

No 62,020

THE TIMES

MONDAY DECEMBER 24 1984



THE TIMES

Thursday

What's my line?
Philip Norman on the American art of cinema queuing
Changing horses
The cavalier-style of record-breaking jockey John Francombe

Friday

Adrian Mole's Christmas
Sue Townsend with a specially written diary extract

Saturday

Top of the pops
Tasting the very best of champagne
Calendar of World Sport

Portfolio

There were two winners in the Times Portfolio weekly competition which ended on Saturday. They share the prize of £40,000, which had been doubled because there was no winner the previous week. Miss Asaf Muzaffar of Bedford and Mr J. C. Danes of Farnham, Surrey each receive £20,000.

The daily prize of £2,000 was won by Mr Andrew Ailes of London SW15. Because there will be two days without publication this week there will be no weekly competition. The daily competition will take place as usual. Portfolio list, page 12. Rules and how to play, back page Information Service.

RAF relief mission may be extended

The Government may extend the RAF relief mission to Ethiopia (our Defence Correspondent writes). Two Hercules aircraft have ferried nearly 3,000 tonnes of grain to famine-stricken areas since November. Flights will break at midday tomorrow while crew members share Christmas lunch with the British community in Addis Ababa. *US air lift, page 4*

TV campaign

The Government is planning a £2 million publicity campaign to combat the menace of heroin. The campaign will be aimed at preventing young people from becoming users. *Page 3*

India votes

India's 390 million voters begin polling today with Mr Rajiv Gandhi's Congress (I) Party confident of being returned to power with an increased majority. *Page 5*

Lee unhappy

Mr Lee Kuan Yew, Singapore's Prime Minister, hinted at changes in the "one-man-one-vote" system after his ruling party's winning majority was reduced in weekend elections. *Page 5*

Brothers sue

The Egyptian Al-Fayed brothers who own almost 30 per cent of House of Fraser, have issued a writ against Dr Ashraf Marwan, after he alleged that their stake was held in the Far East. *Page 13*

Art exports

Heritage organizations are to bring increasing pressure on the Government for a review of the guidelines covering the export of works of art. *Page 3*

Kempton duel

Burrough Hill Lad, the 1984 Cheltenham Gold Cup winner, will attempt to end the Dickinson family's domination of the King George VI Chase at Kempton Park on Boxing Day. *Racing, pages 16 and 17*

The Times

In common with other newspapers, The Times will not be published tomorrow or on Boxing Day

Leader page 9

Letters: On 'star wars', from Dr G. Lee Williams and Mr H. Hanning; productivity, from Sir Geoffrey Chandler; Sunday trading, from Mr Sid Tierney; Leading articles: Nativity; Gorbachev visit; New towns; Festivities, pages 6-8

A Christmas story by Russell Hoban; Bernard Levin sends seasonal ill-will to a Labour MP; Paul Jennings celebrates the sales; Spectrum: how well do you know your body? Monday Page: quotes of the year

Obituary, page 10

Professor Hugh Seton-Watson

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Gadaffi 'was ready to give miners £20m'

- Colonel Gaddafi of Libya is believed to have been ready to give the miners more than £20 million towards their strike fund
- The Archbishop of York says a new initiative is needed if the pits dispute is to be resolved
- Union leaders who have given the

By Julian Haviland, Political Editor

Colonel Gaddafi of Libya is believed to have been ready to offer more than £20 million to the National Union of Mineworkers, when he received a representative of the union in Tripoli two months ago.

The sum is several hundred times greater than was envisaged by members of the union's executive as a possible contribution and 10 times as much as the IRA over several years in the early seventies.

The NUM said yesterday that no money was offered by Colonel Gaddafi to Mr Roger Windsor, the union's chief executive, when they met in October, and no cash help had been sought from the Libyan Government or offered by it at any time.

The brief and formal meeting between the two men, which remained secret until disclosed by *The Sunday Times*, came after Mr Windsor held two days of talks with Libyan trade union representatives who, the union said, invited him to Tripoli to learn the reasons for the dispute and why the NUM was seeking solidarity.

The information that more than £20 million would have been available, had the union been willing and able to receive it, was given to *The Times* by a well-placed source in the Yorkshire coalfields.

The source is sympathetic to the miners, but disturbed at the discovery that the Libyan Government is prepared to intervene in other countries' affairs and to spend money on such a scale with the primary purpose of embarrassing a foreign government to which it is hostile.

Colonel Gaddafi has given many indications of his antipathy to the British Government, both as a central member of the Atlantic Alliance and because of resentment at Britain's breaking off of diplomatic relations after shots fired from the Libyan People's Bureau in London killed MFC Yvonne Fletcher last April.

In recent weeks the Libyans have talked of resuming their payments to the IRA. Those are believed to have ceased several years ago, but IRA leaders have maintained good personal relations with members of the Libyan Government.

Colonel Gaddafi has shown his willingness to spend money to promote revolutions and to destabilize governments all over the world, from Central America to the Philippines. With oil revenues of 10 billion dollars, and a population of only about 3,500,000, he is not short of funds and has absolute control of them.

The position of the NUM, as defined by its president, Mr

Arthur Scargill, and repeated yesterday, is that it will not take money from the Government of Libya, but it would take money from trade unionists anywhere, including Libyans.

When Mr Windsor's visit to Tripoli became known, senior members of the Labour Party and the trade union movement were outraged. Mr Neil Kinnock said that any offers from the "vile" Libyan regime to the miners would be "an insult to everything the British labour movement stands for." Moderate members of the NUM executive objected strongly to the visit.

Professor Paul Wilkinson, Professor of International Relations at the University of Aberdeen, who has made a special study of Libya and of international terrorism, said yesterday that it was unlikely that Colonel Gaddafi's agents would find difficulty in conveying large sums from Libya to contacts in Britain or elsewhere.

There was evidence that the Libyan regime had used so-called students or businessmen, sometimes travelling on the passports of other countries, as couriers.

Professor Wilkinson was surprised by the amount apparently on offer.

Miners' Christmas, page 2

Unions fear courts over cash for miners

By David Felton, Labour Correspondent

Union leaders who have continued to send money to the National Union of Mineworkers after the sequestration of its assets by the High Court, are becoming increasingly concerned at the possibility of facing contempt proceedings.

Unions sympathetic to the miners have in recent weeks received two letters from the sequestrators and one from the Official Receiver, appointed to control NUM funds, asking for full details of their contributions and plans for future support.

The growing legal involvement in the pits strike, which today enters its forty-second week, comes as the focus in the coalfields switches away from the picket lines and into the mining communities where attempts are being made to ensure a normal Christmas.

The miners' holiday period extends until at least January 2, but the 120,000 miners estimated by the National Coal Board to be still on strike will come under renewed pressure before then in a propaganda campaign aimed at breaking the strike.

The court is expected to emphasize in a series of advertisements the high level of coal stocks which could carry power stations through the winter and its determination not to have any further negotiations until the NUM softens its policy of total opposition to pit closures on economic grounds.

While the controversy continues over the decision by Mr Sid Vincent, secretary of the Lancashire miners, to spend Christmas in Tenerife, Mr Ian MacGregor, the coal board chairman, is on holiday in the United States with his family and Mr Arthur Scargill, the miners' president, expects to spend the holiday working.

But the end of the holiday will mean that all parties in the dispute will face critical decisions, and unions supporting the miners could be involved in legal proceedings. The National Union of Railwaymen, which has made a £100,000 loan to the NUM is due in the High Court on January 16 to reply to orders requiring it to give precise details of the money it has made available.

Archbishop seeks peace initiative

A new initiative will have to be made if a solution to the miners' strike is to be found, the Archbishop of York, Dr John Halsgood, says today.

He says in an interview with Radio York that the Government's hopes of a drift back to work before Christmas have been dashed.

The Archbishop goes on to say that the church is working to heal the rift in the community. "I think a great deal is happening at local level and I hear stories about the church being sometimes the only body which brings local contending parties together."

"I think, in a remarkable way, the churches have managed to retain the trust of both sides, and will therefore be in a very favourable position when the strike is over to try to rebuild the community."

But he adds that lasting damage will have been caused. "You can have dissidence on this scale which is then dissipated overnight when the strike is over."

Christmas cheer for homeless

By Tony Samstag

If Christmas seemed to be taking on an Orwellian cast yesterday, it probably owed more to the spirit of *Down and Out in Paris and London* than to 1984, as Britain's own jobless and homeless face the thousands of African famine victims for the charity of the better off among us.

Just after noon Crisis at Christmas began its seventeenth year of providing temporary shelter and food for about a thousand people who have nowhere else to go. A queue of 40 or 50 waited for the opening of Central London Garage, a disused bus garage near Euston.

station, where all comers would be welcome for six days. The organizers reckoned that 15,000 meals would be served during that period; 40,000 cups of tea with six cwt of sugar and, for a Christmas dinner that would take more than hours to serve, 1,100 lbs of turkey off the bone. Six hundred mattresses, 1,600 suits, 5,000 shirts, 200 hats and a small mountain of shoes were also on hand.

Among the 400 volunteer workers are a gaggle of young chefs from the Army School of Catering, Aldershot, aspirants to the heights of armed forces' catering of which the Egon

Ronay Organization wrote so eloquently last month.

An ingenious scheme to collect more money for the Ethiopian famine appeal was announced, meanwhile, by British Telecom.

Payment for telephone calls to three special numbers tomorrow, Christmas day, would be given to the appeal, plus Telecom promised, value-added tax. The numbers are: 01 637 7171, where Noel Edmonds will be taking requests and dedications on BBC's *Christmas Breakfast*; 01 387 6284, where Edmonds has recorded a seasonal message.

There are no silent nights in Beirut now

From Robert Fisk, Beirut

A small advertisement at the top of the independent daily newspaper *Al-Nahar* advises readers that newly imported turkeys have just arrived in Beirut from the United States. A large bird with illustrious plumage decorates the notice for late Christmas readers, although the photograph four columns away carries a different message: A druse school devastated by a car bomb on Friday that wounded nineteen children.

It raised the old question here: How do you talk about Christmas and hope and joy in Beirut, where there is no hope, little joy and - this year - precious little Christmas cheer?

Syrian National Socialist Party, have insisted on hanging some tinsel above a petrol station near the Khayyam cinema but the Shia Muslim militias have discouraged other decorations. Christmas trees have been selling at £20 each. The only bright lights in the night have been the fires burning from the latest car bombs, a series of devastating explosions that provoke Christian radio announcers to interrupt their carol programmes with tales of Muslim barbarism.

What sort of New Year wishes can one give the Lebanese this Christmas? After all, Sidon and Tyre were part of the holy Land - Christ taught in both cities - and it was there that he cast the devil from a young woman. Moses spoke of Sidon as the northern

border of Canaan. St Paul turned up there on his way from Caesarea to Rome. The Knights Templar used to celebrate Christmas in the Castle until their humiliating retreat in 1291.

But Sidon is now almost a forbidden word. The Lebanese Government confidently expects a civil war to start in the city when the Israelis withdraw in a few weeks' time.

A year ago, the Western powers in whom the Christians of Lebanon have so far relied, were still here. The French Army were celebrating mass beside the museum, the British Dragoons were singing carols beneath the shells at Hadath and the American Marines were decorating their tanks with empty beer cans.

This year only the British Ambassador in the gracious, if



Mrs Thatcher (top) pulling a Christmas cracker during her flight back to London yesterday with the US Ambassador to London, Mr Charles H. Price and (above) relaxing during a party on board the plane.

Soviet defence post may be downgraded

From Richard Owen, Moscow

Marshal Dmitry Ustinov will be buried with full honours on Red Square today with his successor as Soviet Defence Minister already chosen: a remarkably swift transition intended to underline calm and continuity in the Kremlin.

Marshal Sergei Sokolov, aged 73, the new Defence Minister, is expected to attend the ceremony together with President Chernenko and the Politburo. Marshal Sokolov is a military career officer, however, not a leading party figure, and there are reports that the Defence portfolio in effect has been downgraded.

The body of Marshal Ustinov, who died last Thursday at the age of 76, lay in state over the weekend in the ornate Hall of Columns near Red Square. A huge sign on the outside of the classical portico advertising the World Chess Championships was replaced by a giant portrait of Marshal Ustinov on a red background edged with black.

There were few other signs of public mourning, however, and the death has received relatively low key treatment.

President Chernenko paid his last respects to Marshal Ustinov at the lying in state, together with other members of the Politburo. These included Mr Mikhail Gorbachev, the Kremlin number two, who hurried back from his trip to Britain on Friday to be present, and Mr Grigory Romanov, his rival for the succession to Mr Chernenko, who had been tipped to succeed Marshal Ustinov at the Defence Ministry.

Mr Romanov was named on

Friday as head of the funeral commission which would normally be a sign that he had been picked to succeed the late Minister. Some reports in Moscow said Mr Romanov had declined the appointment in order to remain in the forefront of the struggle to succeed Mr Chernenko, but other reports said Marshal Sokolov had already begun to deputize for Marshal Ustinov over the past three months and his selection had been assured.

Marshal Sokolov reviewed the annual military parade in November instead of Marshal Ustinov who, according to Tass, contracted pneumonia at the time.

end of October. He was said at the time to have a cold. He developed liver and kidney complications and died of heart failure last Thursday evening.

Public reaction has been muted. Soldiers in uniform and factory workers brought in to the sealed-off city centre by bus queued in icy temperatures for a glimpse of the body. Inside the hall the chandeliers of what was once the Moscow noblemen's club were covered by black crepe, and an orchestra played mournful music.

Marshal Ustinov's death is not expected to have an immediate impact on Soviet defence and arms control policy, although in the long run the reversion to a purely military Defence Minister may affect decision making. Observers said Moscow's negotiating tactics for the Soviet-American Geneva talks in two weeks time had been agreed.

Marshal Ustinov's death will have a more immediate impact on the struggle between generations. Mr Gorbachev still faces a formidable rival in Mr Romanov. On the other hand the "old guard" is gradually passing from the scene, and pressure is building up for Mr Chernenko to rejuvenate the leadership.



Rivals: Mr Romanov and Mr Gorbachev

Thatcher back well and happy

By our Political Editor

The Prime Minister was back at Chequers last night to spend the Christmas holiday with her family after travelling round the world in six days, visiting Peking, Hong Kong and Washington, and stopping at Bahrain, Bombay, Guam and Honolulu.

She travelled more than 25,000 miles and spent 54 hours in the air.

Mrs Margaret Thatcher's first sign of normal human frailty was when she decided, after touching down at Heathrow in the small hours of yesterday, to drive to Downing Street for a little extra sleep.

Mr Chris Moncrieff, of the Press Association, who travelled with the Prime Minister, described her as stepping from her RAF VC10 yesterday looking as composed and fresh as though she was returning from a week on the beach. He said her officials were amazed at her stamina.

The central objective of her journey was the signing in Peking of the historic agreement with the Chinese Government over the future of Hong Kong, but the most urgent immediate task was in Washington.

Her purpose there, at her meeting with President Reagan and her subsequent press conference, was to destroy any idea that last week's visit to Britain by Mr Mikhail Gorbachev had divided the American and British administrations.

There was a feeling in Washington and London that the Soviet Union had had some success in suggesting that Mrs Thatcher's comments on the arms race during Mr Gorbachev's visit indicated serious differences between the Western capitals.

In the approach to the talks in Geneva next month between Mr George Shultz, the American Secretary of State, and Mr Andrei Gromyko, the Soviet Foreign Minister, the public show of mutual confidence when President Reagan received Mrs Thatcher on Saturday was seen as helpful, as was the four-point declaration on arms control.

Mrs Thatcher said to the press: "I told the President I had made it absolutely clear to Mr Gorbachev that there was no question of the Soviet Union being able to divide the United Kingdom from the United States on these matters."

Mr Dennis Healey, the shadow Foreign Secretary, said yesterday that he detected a difference of emphasis between Mr Reagan and Mrs Thatcher in the second of their four agreed points, that deployment of "star wars" weapons - the strategic defence initiative - would have to be a matter for negotiation, in view of treaty obligations.

Mr Healey said the Prime Minister seemed to be committed against going any further on the project before negotiations with the Soviet Union.

SALE

STARTS THURSDAY DEC 27

SALE

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SALE

STARTS THURSDAY DEC 27

9am-7pm (Thurs) 9am-6pm (Fri/Sat)

REGENT STREET LONDON W1

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Memorial for Donald Campbell

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£2m publicity campaign to prevent heroin use by young people

By Richard Evans, Lobby Reporter

A £2 million publicity campaign aimed at combating the heroin menace is being planned by the Government for spring.

Television commercials, possibly featuring addicts, will be screened to try to deter susceptible teenagers from experimenting with the drug.

Hundreds of thousands of leaflets will be aimed at parents and professionals informing them of tell-tale signs that would show if young people are using heroin and what action they should take.

The leaflets will be distributed through doctors' surgeries, social service departments and possibly schools. If they are a success ministers are thinking in terms of having millions run off.

In addition to the publicity drive, a film will be made next

year for teachers, social workers and probation officers.

Pete Townshend, the rock star and former heroin user, who spoke out against hard drugs at this year's Conservative Party conference, will be advising on how the film should be produced.

The advertising offensive and film are the latest initiatives from a Whitehall inter-departmental committee, headed by Mr John Patten and Mr David Mellor, junior ministers at the Department of Health and Social Security and the Home Office. It was set up earlier this year and meets monthly to tackle the drugs crisis.

There are an estimated 50,000 heroin addicts, and the figure is known to be growing rapidly. More than a fifth of London's "targeted" criminals are said to be involved in drugs.

After extensive market research, bids were invited from four advertising agencies for the publicity project. Those reached ministers last week. The campaign is scheduled to begin in late February or early March.

Mr Keith Raffan, Conservative MP for Delyn, who is receiving Government backing for his bill to increase the maximum sentence for hard drug pushers from 14 years to life imprisonment, yesterday welcomed the publicity plan.

"It is another important aspect of the Government's concerted attack on drug misuse," he said. "We have already had announcements of extra money for treatment. But prevention is as important as cure, and publicity, particularly a campaign of this kind, plays as crucial a part in prevention as police or customs officers."

Memorial for Donald Campbell

Gina Campbell, aged 34, daughter of Donald Campbell, is to unveil a memorial on New Year's Eve, at Lake Dumbleyung near Perth, Western Australia, where her father broke the world speed record 20 years ago.

It was in an attempt to better that record of 276.33 mph that he was killed. His speedboat, Bluebird, crashed on Coniston Water in the Lake District in 1967. His body was not found.

In October Gina Campbell survived a crash which wrecked her speedboat Agia Bluebird II, after setting a new world record at more than 120 mph.

Break-in answer to alarm bells

Householders in Dudley, West Midlands, who go on holiday, and whose burglar alarm bells start ringing by accident are likely to find that local council officials have taken out warrants and have sent men round to break in and switch off if there is no way of reaching a key-holder.

The council says that so many houses now have burglar alarms that faulty ringing is a big problem, particularly at holiday times.

Raiders steal truck gearboxes

Gearboxes stolen in midnight raids on parked trucks are being exported for sale on the black market in the third world, according to the Lincolnshire police.

More than 50 gearboxes worth up to £50,000 have been taken from isolated parks, compounds, farms and factories by a gang which can remove one from a vehicle in less than 15 minutes.

Robbery reminder

Part of the locomotive involved in the Great Train Robbery of 1963, its number, 40126, is to be preserved in the Postal History Museum in London after the British Rail engineering works at Doncaster where the locomotive is being dismantled, gave the piece to the Post Office.

Ammonia attack

Ammonia was thrown in the faces of policemen after a fight involving 70 Chelsea football supporters broke out at the Frenchies nightclub in Blackpool early yesterday. Eight supporters are expected to appear in court today.

Tunnel safe

Summit rail tunnel, near Todmorden, West Yorkshire, in which a fuel train exploded last week, was declared structurally safe by geologists yesterday. There will be a full site inspection on Thursday.

Stricter control of art exports wanted

By David Hewson, Arts Correspondent

The Government is to come under increasing pressure to order a review of the guidelines covering the export of works of art, which many heritage organizations feel are too lax.

Soaring international art prices have made it difficult for many British institutions to bid for items sold through the London houses, and the recent reductions in galleries' and museums' purchase grants and the freezing of the value of items which may be donated to the nation in lieu of tax are expected to aggravate the situation.

The concern in the art world has surfaced in an article by the former Tory junior minister Lord Fanshawe of Richmond, in the magazine of the National Art-Collections Fund, the chief private backer of art purchases for public institutions.

Lord Fanshawe questions the working of the Waverly guidelines on the export of works of art.

The article points out that it is 32 years since the guidelines were laid down by the Waverly commission.

"Perhaps it is time for an independent committee to be set up by the Minister (for the Arts) to examine the future, working in practice of export control, without however questioning the basic principle of preserving an equitable balance

between the interests of the state and those of the private citizen.

"The evidence and findings of this committee should be published and would enable the public to reach a better informed judgement as to the real nature of the present worrying situation.

Lord Fanshawe suggests that, meanwhile, the reviewing committee, which decides whether works should have their export licences delayed to give British establishments the chance to buy them, should keep the public more fully and more promptly informed about its practices.

The article suggests three tax concessions to keep works of art in Britain: the end of interim interest charged on a work which is being offered for sale if it is accepted, the introduction of a tax surplus for someone whose art sales exceeds his tax debt, and a change in capital taxes.

Sir Peter Wakefield, art-collections fund's director, says in the same issue: "The rise in prices of works of art, particularly ones of top museum quality, have shot up."

"Even at these prices we must not allow too many of them to leave these shores. We are most unlikely to have a second chance: once they are gone, they are gone."

Executed killers are given Christian reburial

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

Three executed murderers have been given a short Christian service for their reburial after removal from Gloucester jail, to make way for a new £2 million gatehouse complex.

The Home Office has confirmed that killers hanged in the jail from 1792 to 1939 were buried in unconsecrated ground, without headstones or a Christian funeral.

During the excavations for rebuilding, workmen found an unrecorded drain, estimated to have been laid about 60 years ago. The Home Office said it was believed the other remains were removed at the time.

The remains of the three were taken in coffins by undertakers in Tredworth Road Cemetery Gloucester. Mr Joe Lynch, city

superintendent of cemeteries and cremations, said the graves were blessed by the chaplain but were in a section of the cemetery which was not consecrated ground.

The service was conducted by the Rev Sidney Riggs, Vicar of St Mary-de-Lode, and the prison chaplain, the Rev John Thornton.

A licence signed by the Home Secretary, Mr Leon Brittan, was issued for the exhumation and reburial of the prisoners.

In 1971, Ruth Ellis, the last woman hanged in Britain, was exhumed with four other executed women killers, when the old Holloway prison was being demolished for rebuilding. Her remains were reburied in St Mary's Churchyard, Amersham, Buckinghamshire.

Licence refunds as transmitters close

By Our Arts Correspondent

The Home Office recognizes that some people will still be without 625-line television. Anyone living in an area where it is not possible to receive BBC 2, which has been transmitted on 625 lines since it started, is likely to be affected.

Viewers who believe they are entitled to receive a refund on the unexpired part of their licence fee are advised to write to the National TV Licence Records Office, Bristol BS98 1TT.

The 405-line transmitters which will be closed before the

end of the year are: BBC Winter Hill, Monmouth Bay, Ashkirk, Mowbray, Berrymore, Pottery Pike, Melvaig, Skirga, Penfiter, Landrindon Wells, Crystal Palace, North Hensley Tor, Redruth, Weavice (West), Sutton Coldfield, Holme Moss, Sandale (England), Kirk O'Shotts, Rosemarkle, Blawplaw, Haverfordwest, Divis, Rowridge and Meldrum.

TV: Wincoburn, Llandover, Landrindon Wells, Croydon, Stockland Hill, Cranford Hill, St Hilary (West), Lichfield, Emley Moor, Caldbeck, Black Hill, Mountcote, Fressell, Black Mountain and Chiltern Down.



Vision from afar: Mrs Janice Moseley with her son, Alexander

Soldier will see son by satellite link

Captain Rupert Moseley of the Royal Engineers, who is on a tour of duty in the Falklands, will see his son Alexander, who was born on December 16, for the first time on Noel Edmonds's *Live, Live Christmas Breakfast Show* at 11.05 am on BBC-1 tomorrow.

The programme will use a live satellite link, the first of its kind the BBC says, to be arranged with the Falklands 8,000 miles

away. Captain Moseley's wife, Mrs Janice Moseley, said: "I'm really chuffed."

Other servicemen and islanders will be able to send Christmas messages to family and friends in Britain, and schoolchildren in Port Stanley will sing a carol.

The show will also link live into the American breakfast television programme *Good Morning America*.

TV boxing pact under scrutiny

By David Walker

The Office of Fair Trading is to investigate an arrangement signed by leading boxing promoters and the manager of Frank Bruno and Charlie Magri for splitting the proceeds of televised fights.

The Office of Fair Trading, a government agency, may determine that the arrangement is an illegitimate restrictive practice and could ask the Monopolies Commission to make a full-scale study of commercial dealings in boxing.

The arrangement, signed in 1979 between Mr Terry Lawless, a boxing manager, Mr Mickey Duff and Mr Mike Barrett, both promoters, and Mr Jarvis Astaire, a financier, is a kind of mutual pact requiring participants to pool the proceeds of fights so they can be shared equally. Due to last until 1988, the agreement covers lucrative contracts for television fights held at the Wembley Arena and the Albert Hall.

A parallel investigation is to be undertaken by the British Boxing Board of Control.

The *Sunday Times*, which disclosed the agreement, has sent the Office of Fair Trading a lawyer's opinion stating that the agreement conflicts with provisions of the Competition Act 1980 and possibly also falls foul of the Fair Trading Act 1973. If there were a Monopolies Commission.

One man caused Aids outbreak

By a Staff Reporter

The outbreak of Aids which has infected more than 40 people in the south of England is now known to have been started by a homosexual who was a regular blood donor.

The man, aged 27, who has not been identified, last gave blood five days before his illness was diagnosed. The batch of blood collected at the session was later thrown away, but the man had given blood regularly since March 1983, and more than 40 people who received it now have Aids.

antibodies. The disease will not become apparent for at least two years, if at all.

A spokesman for the Department of Health and Social Security said yesterday that the incident was the first case in Britain of a known Aids sufferer infecting others through blood donations.

"It is now routine to ask people who are suffering from Aids if they have given blood, and in this case the man had," the DHSS said. Health officials

say that the case underlines the recent advice to homosexuals not to give blood.

The DHSS is rewriting a leaflet giving advice on blood donations to tell all homosexuals not to give blood, not just those who regularly had more than one sexual partner, as was originally the case. They believe that with 102 people now suffering from the Aids virus, 89 of whom are homosexuals, the original advice was not as strongly worded as it should have been.

Date set for cheap transatlantic fares

The British Government has lifted its ban on cheap transatlantic winter air fares and says that cut-price tickets on the London-New York run can start on January 1.

The permission came after an announcement by the United States State Department that it would not take legal action against British Airways if it dropped its London-New York fares by 35 per cent this winter.

Britain's decision on Friday to reverse its ban on low winter fares ends a stormy two months in Anglo-American aviation relations.

But the underlying cause of the dispute, Britain's demand for a guarantee against future antitrust prosecutions in the United States for setting low fares, remains unresolved.

"It's purely a short-term solution for the winter," the Department of Transport said.

The Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) said it had informed airlines flying the London-New York route that if they filed applications for low-cost winter fares before December 27, "they will be approved for January 1".

British Airways said its new round-trip fares, available until

the end of March, will cost £259 between London and New York, £40 lower than the present lowest price.

Its advance-purchase or late-purchase round-trip fare from New York to London will be £378 (£315) on weekdays and £428 at weekends.

Other British, American and foreign carriers were expected to file similar fares on the London-New York run. The CAA said on Friday that it had already received applications from British Airways, World Airways and American Airlines.

Safety boots tax 'would endanger 3,000 jobs'

By Derek Harris, Commercial Editor

About 3,000 jobs in making safety footwear are under threat if the Chancellor of the Exchequer extends value-added tax in the next Budget to safety boots, according to the British Footwear Manufacturers Federation.

Until now the score of British makers of safety boots and shoes have been by far the most successful of any footwear makers in beating imports in straight competition. Imports account for less than 5 per cent of the safety market, while well over half of all footwear sold in Britain is imported.

Tax is imposed on safety shoes but safety boots are zero rated. Safety footwear has reinforced toe caps as protection against falling heavy objects but also can have other features such as protective mid soles. Boots are zero rated provided they meet the requisite British Standard.

The federation fears that as the Chancellor switches increasingly to indirect forms of taxation VAT could be imposed on safety boots. That could

tempt manufacturers to abandon the British Standard procedure and its expense because the extra cost might no longer be seen to be worthwhile.

The federation, which has been joined in its campaign by the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents, says: "Abolition of zero rating on safety boots would weaken, perhaps fatally, the British Standard and would open the market to untested, non-standard footwear much of which would come in from abroad."

"Abolition might lead in time to a major loss of share of a smaller home market, putting up to 3,000 jobs at stake."

That is about the number of those employed in the safety footwear sector which last year sold 4.7 million pairs of footwear, mostly on the British market.

If tax was imposed on all safety footwear it was likely to raise for the Treasury only about an additional £3.5 million in a full year, allowing for some contraction in the market, the federation said.

Women raped within marriage, group says

Ten per cent of battered women seeking refuge have been raped or sexually abused within marriage, according to Scottish Women's Aid.

Ms Shirley Henderson, a spokeswoman for the organization, said the figures were probably much higher, as many women were reluctant to talk about their experiences. "We have no statistics but, given the fact that women in refuge are more likely to have suffered abuse than women in the community as a whole, the chances are that the numbers are higher."

"Many people still have the old idea that when women marry they become their husband's property, and men often think they have the right to demand and take sex whenever they want. In Scotland, a husband can be accused of raping his wife, but in practice only if they are legally separated."

The Women's Aid group in Falkirk and Grangemouth, in Stirlingshire, says that one-tenth of the women who come to them for help confided they were forced to have sex or to perform degrading sexual acts

Drive for more clergy gets under way

By Clifford Longley, Religious Affairs Correspondent

The Church of England has launched a recruitment drive to restore the falling number of clergy. A package of publicity literature has been sent with the church's Christmas card to each of the 12,000 clergymen in the country, asking them each to launch their own local campaign for religious vocations.

It comes from the House of Bishops, which is concerned by the continuing drop in the annual rate of recruitment. From 1982 to 1983 it fell from 350 to 303.

The progressive drop has long term implications, because it will affect the ability of the church to maintain clergy in parishes into the beginning of the next century. The drop already indicates a gradual decline in the number of parishes which can be supplied with a full-time clergyman during the next 20 years as clergy retire who were ordained 20 to 30 years ago when the annual intake was much higher.

With each Christmas card a clergyman gets a package consisting of posters, a study guide for parish groups, sermon notes, and a prayer leaflet. There are also information sheets giving details of what the clerical career entails.

A covering letter from the Bishop of Newcastle, the Rt Rev Alec Graham, asks the clergy to organize days of prayer, teaching and discussion. Like most church statistics, the number of candidates for ordination turned upwards at the end of the 1970s, but has since resumed the decline that has been a regular feature of the annual returns for the past two decades.

Recruitment for the part-time "non-stipendiary" ministry, who are ordained while continuing in their secular jobs, has not shown the same pattern of decline.

Attacks on ice cream van drivers continue

By Ronald Faux, Glasgow

Police in Glasgow are investigating claims that the city's "ice cream war" is smouldering on with violence and intimidation still being used against some van drivers.

Two men were given life sentences in October for murdering a family of six after a fight erupted between rival companies operating the vans that drive round the estates selling sweets, crisps, cigarettes and ice cream.

Mr Archie McDougall, general manager of Marchetti Brothers, one of whose drivers was killed, said that the threats to his drivers and damage to the vans had continued since the court case.

"It is costing us a fortune to pay for the repairs to windows and tyres. We now buy the glass direct from the manufacturer," he said.

Associates of Thomas Campbell, the gang leader, serving a minimum sentence of 20 years for the murders, were known to be operating vans on the estates which are largely devoid of shops. According to Mr McDougall the new regulations governing street trading have not helped the position.

The drivers may turn over more than £1,000 a week each, giving a profit of up to £200, he said. That should be good enough to make the operation viable but the cost of repairs and the difficulty of persuading drivers to work on the estates meant that the company had been losing money.

"Quite a few drivers have been subject to harassment, planks of wood with nails driven through them have been left under the tyres, bricks have been hurled at the vans in the darkness and drivers have been threatened with such violence some of them have given up," said Mr McDougall.

Marchetti Brothers have been trading around Glasgow since the 1950s, and Mr McDougall said they would not be driven away by intimidation. He said that the Strathclyde police were collating reports of attacks on vans in various areas of the city.

Although a "war" between ice cream vans might seem ludicrous, the stakes are high, particularly for any unscrupulous operator.

Strathclyde police could not comment yesterday. A spokesman has said that the estates around Glasgow were being policed and the complaints investigated.

Lake District scheme opposed

The Friends of the Lake District is to oppose a proposal by Arab Investments to develop Braithwaite Fold caravan site at Bowness-on-Windermere at a cost of up to £20 million. South Lakeland District Council has given its approval in principle.

The Braithwaite Fold Protection Group, formed by residents to oppose any commercial development of the site, also confirmed yesterday that it would be increasing its opposition to the London-based firm's proposal.

Burberry Bargains

The Burberry Sale
STARTS 9 a.m. THURSDAY 27th DECEMBER
At 18-22 Haymarket,
165 Regent Street, London
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Open till 7 p.m.

Some examples of Burberry Bargains:		
	Our Current Price	Special Price*
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Classic style Weatherproof	£150.00	£110.00
Trench style Weatherproof	£215.00	£160.00
Mens Shirts	£27.50	£17.50
Sports Jackets	£125.00	£79.50
Silk Ties	£13.50	£6.50
For Women		
Classic style Weatherproof	£150.00	£110.00
Trench style Weatherproof	£205.00	£155.00
Ladies Jackets	£125.00	£69.50
Burberry Check Skirts (various styles)	£82.50	£52.50
Blouson Jackets	£110.00	£65.00

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Customs men make life hard at the stills

Customs officers are making life difficult for the manufacturers of poteen, the white spirit distilled illegally north and south of the Irish border and commonly sold for £5 a bottle.

Hundreds of cases of the liquor have been prepared for the secret sales, but seven big stills have been seized in various parts of Northern Ireland, worrying the men behind the potentially lucrative black market.

Loose tongues, anxious parents and painstaking intelligence work have led customs officers to hideouts in a pro-Christmas offensive.

One store was found at the bottom of a man's bed in Co. Antrim and another was hidden behind a wall of books in a hay shed.

One man who has more than 2,000 bottles ready for sale in the Sperrin Mountains of Co. Tyrone said yesterday: "The customs men are really making life hell for us at the moment. We expected this to be our best Christmas, but it is becoming increasingly difficult to shift stuff. They seem to be all over the place."

"We have plenty earmarked for England and Scotland, but the way things are going, people might not be as keen to take the risks."

"Company trips" over here on trips normally smuggle back bottles for friends and relatives, but they don't appear to be as enthusiastic this time. Even the visiting Americans who enjoy a glass or two are slightly apprehensive."

Those caught making

poteen, some of which is 100 per cent proof, face maximum penalties of £1,000 and six months in jail.

Poteen, which has been produced in Ireland for centuries, is made from sugar, yeast, treacle, potato peelings, apple skins, and fruit. It is said to cure rheumatic pains and is used to treat sick animals.

Mr Robin Scott, Administration Collector of the Customs and Excise in Belfast, said yesterday: "Christmas is traditionally a busy time, but we are more active this year and the detection rate has never been better."

"Parents are worried that their children can buy it - it's much cheaper than whiskey - and publicans who are losing trade are not too happy either."

Youth stabbed in chest at village party

Doctors were last night fighting to save the life of a youth and another youth was in danger of losing a leg after they were stabbed during a Christmas party in a village hall in Blackmoor, near Whitehill, Hampshire.

Det Supt Arthur Mandry said that police were having difficulty trying to establish what happened at the discotheque party, attended by 300 young people.

"There were about half a dozen different fights during the evening. The last one was when the stabbings occurred," he said.

Mr Mandry said that the only fight to occur outside was when the injuries were received by four youths. One was stabbed in the chest nearly puncturing his lung and a second was stabbed in the leg.

Thatcher gives Reagan her backing for critical Geneva meeting

From Christopher Thomas, Washington

The United States believes the show of unity on Saturday between Mrs Thatcher and President Reagan over his controversial "star wars" programme, has strengthened America's position as it prepares to enter critical arms talks in Geneva next month with the Soviet Union.

The Administration regards Mrs Thatcher's moral support as vital to the unity of the Western alliance and to its ability to convince Russia of Western resolve. She gave that support unreservedly in three and a half hours of talks at Camp David, the presidential retreat in Maryland. "We see matters in very much the same light," she said.

There are nevertheless differences of emphasis. While Mrs Thatcher argued that the nuclear doctrine known as "mutual assured destruction" has kept the peace for nearly 40 years, President Reagan believes firmly that space-based anti-ballistic weapons are preferable to deterrence through what he calls "the balance of terror".

But as space-based weapons are years away, the difference is regarded by both sides as academic. The British position clearly is that Mrs Thatcher will continue to support staunchly the research programme, while keeping her options open on testing and deployment of space weapons.

Mrs Thatcher spoke of her "firm conviction" that the "star wars" research should proceed. "If the result of research is that it is decided to go ahead with production and deployment, that has to be a matter for negotiation before those decisions could be taken."

She added that any Soviet attempt to divide the West on the project, properly known as the "strategic defence initiative" (SDI), would be a hopeless mission. "Wedge-driving is just not on. I told the President of

What 'Star Wars' is all about

The "Star Wars" project is a five-year, \$26 billion research programme into the development of a space-based strategic defence against nuclear missiles in flight.

Possible futuristic concepts include X-ray laser weapons or particle beams. The project is properly known as the Strategic Defence Initiative (SDI). Scientists involved in the programme say the immediate objective is to protect America's 1,000 land-based nuclear arsenal, followed by creation of an impenetrable defence.

my firm conviction that SDI research should go on."

She drew an assurance from President Reagan that no space-based anti-missile defence system would be deployed without negotiations with the Soviet Union. She noted that under existing international agreements, such as the 1972 Anti-Ballistic Missile Treaty, research is permissible.

She said that the Soviet strides in space probe development made research by the United States not only prudent, but necessary. "If you agree with the concept of balance, the United States would have to go ahead with that research."

She and Mr Reagan had agreed on four specific points involving arms control as well as the "star wars" plan. "First, the United States and Western allies will not achieve superiority but to maintain balance, taking account of Soviet developments. Second, that SDI-related developments would, in view of treaty obligations, have to be a matter of negotiation. Third, the overall aim is to enhance, and not to undermine, deterrence. And fourth, East-West negotiations should aim to achieve security with reduced levels of offensive systems of both sides."

Administration officials were worried by Mrs Thatcher's talk last week in England with Mr Mikhail Gorbachev that "there was no point in his or in the Soviet Union's trying to separate us."

The European allies, including Britain, are delighted that the United States had agreed to put the "star wars" project on the table for the Geneva talks on January 7 and 8, which will be headed by Mr George Shultz, the Secretary of State, and Mr Andrei Gromyko, the Soviet Foreign Minister.

The Camp David meeting was marked by the sort of amusing theatre so beloved by Washington. When Mrs Thatcher arrived by helicopter, accompanied by Mr George Bush, the Vice-President, she was greeted by Mr Reagan with a handshake and a kiss. The President escorted her along a windswept causeway to a golf cart, and dressed casually in a sweater, drove her to Aspen Lodge, the presidential residence, for their talks.

● **THREE ARRESTS:** Three leaders of Irish-American groups were arrested near the British Embassy on Saturday during a protest against British policy in Northern Ireland (AFP reports).

The demonstration, involving about 40 people, was staged while Mrs Thatcher was meeting President Reagan.

Those arrested were Mr Joseph Roche, aged 49, national president of the Ancient Order of Hibernians, a fraternal group, Father Sean McManus, aged 49, and Mr Leo Cooney, aged 64, respectively national director and East Coast Co-ordinator of the Irish National Caucus.

The three, who were released pending appearance before a judge, delivered a letter for Mrs Thatcher. They then refused to leave and were arrested under an ordinance forbidding demonstrations in the US capital within 150 yards of an embassy.

Shake-up for secret police in Poland

From Roger Boyes, Warsaw

General Wojciech Jaruzelski, the Polish leader, has unveiled plans for a big shake-up of the secret police and other law enforcement agencies as the Communist Party's response to the murder of the Solidarity priest, Father Jerzy Popieluszko.

Four secret police officers, accused of murder or incitement to murder, will go on trial on Thursday in what promises to be one of the most politically sensitive trials in the Communist bloc for more than 25 years.

The General, who was addressing a full session of the

Central Committee at the weekend was clearly paving the way for a purge. One of the new measures to be imposed on the police appears to be a form of positive vetting in which true political allegiances are tested.

Other administrative changes include closer contact between the Warsaw party cell and the Interior Ministry, closer control by the Central Committee of the installation of hand-picked officers from the Interior Ministry to watch over the running of departments; the setting up of a committee to exchange information between ministry departments; and the

encouragement of outsiders to join the Interior Ministry to end insularity and improve the education of the police.

To deflect criticism that he was pursuing a vendetta against the police, General Jaruzelski criticized lawyers, judges and barristers who were not strict enough in sentencing criminals.

Although the man previously in charge of Communist control of the secret police, Mr Miroslaw Milewski, retained his seat in the Politburo, the General made a number of key changes lower down in the hierarchy.

Mr Janusz Kabaciewicz is to be the new head of the Central Committee administrative

department, which oversees the Interior Ministry party cell. General Jaruzelski will take on the key job of selecting future Communist cadres for training.

From a report read to the Central Committee, it is clear that the general feels that the Popieluszko murder was allowed to occur because the Interior Ministry, which has overall charge of the secret police, had become too inert, often recruiting sons and relatives of former officers, owing more allegiance to their own cabs than to the Communist Party.

● **WARSAW:** The report was

released as General Jaruzelski gave a firm assurance to the Italian Foreign Minister, Signor Giulio Andreotti, that all those traced in connection with the killing would be punished (Reuters reports). The two men met for two and a half hours after Signor Andreotti had visited Popieluszko's church.

The authorities appeared satisfied with the four-day visit. ● **PRAGUE:** President Gustav Husak, in an unusual exchange of letters with the nation's Roman Catholic Primate, Cardinal Frantisek Tomasek, has pledged to guarantee religious freedom in Czechoslovakia (AP reports).

Botha veto on direct negotiations with ANC

From Ray Kennedy, Johannesburg

President Botha of South Africa has firmly denied that his Government is prepared to hold direct talks with the African National Congress (ANC) early in the new year as part of an important new peace initiative.

It was reported at the weekend that a group of National Party MPs would travel to Lusaka, the Zambian capital, next month to meet ANC representatives.

The report followed a call for such talks by the leading Afrikaans newspaper, *Beeld*. The newspaper published a series of articles on the ANC which were fundamentally different from the usual diatribes in the pro-government press and based on lengthy interviews with ANC representatives in Lusaka.

However, President Botha state this weekend: "It is not government policy to negotiate with organizations engaged in promoting violence in South Africa. No parliamentarians of the Nationalist Government will be allowed to do so."

"We are always willing to talks to groups of people who follow the road of constitutional development, but not to those who are fostering violence."

The last part of the statement was interpreted in some quarters as an indication that the Government might be considering talking to ANC leaders now held in South African jails.

There have been persistent rumours in recent months that it is considering the release of Mr Nelson Mandela, although the official line is that he is as unrepentant as hardline as ever, despite 20 years in prison.

However, Mr Louis Le Grange, Minister of Law and Order, hinted in a recent interview that the release of some of Mr Mandela's chief lieutenants, such as Mr Walter Sisulu, was not entirely out of the question.

Despite President Botha's firm denial on talks with the ANC, restlessness within the Nationalist Party for negotiations appears to be growing. A number of the party youth leaders who met in Pretoria recently are reported to have favoured direct contact.

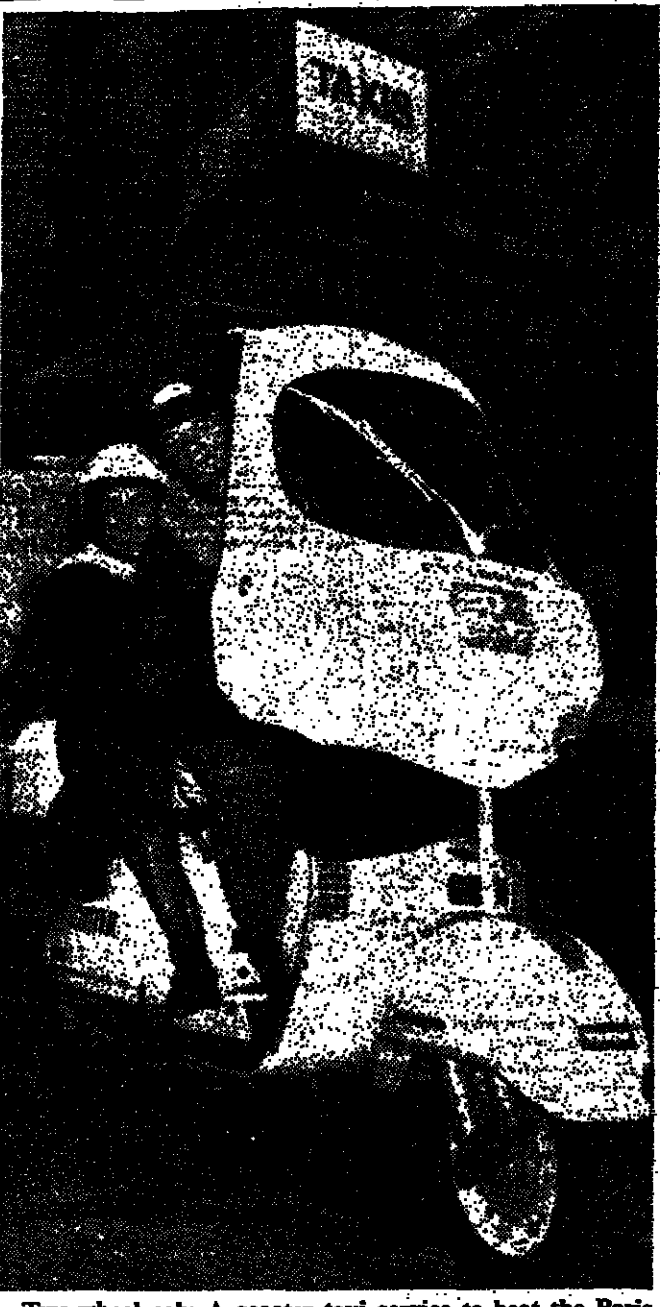
Meanwhile, Mr R. F. "Pik" Botha, the Foreign Minister, confirmed this weekend that he recently visited a number of East African countries. He did not name them, but he is believed to have included Malawi and the Comoro Islands in the Indian Ocean, and also Saudi Arabia.

Mr Botha said the visits concern efforts to halt the supply of arms to the Renamo rebel movement in Mozambique under the terms of the Nkomati accord, signed by South Africa and Mozambique in March.

● **PIETERSBURG:** Reports that police chased black off the streets of this conservative South African town on Saturday morning, to enable whites to do their last-minute Christmas shopping, are to be investigated, Colonel Johannes D. Toit, police liaison officer for the northern region, said yesterday (AFP reports).

Colonel D. Toit denied that orders were given for patrolmen to tell the blacks to leave.

● **PRETORIA:** Black families at Krugersburg, 150 miles east of Johannesburg, who appealed to the Queen in their fight against their removal to make way for a reservoir, have won compensation and the right to build new homes higher up the valley (Reuters reports).



Two-wheel cab: A scooter taxi service to beat the Paris traffic jams is expected to start operating in the New Year on short journeys within the city.

Three missionaries sent to jail in Greece

From Mario Modiano, Athens

Three protestant missionaries – a Briton, an American and a Greek – have received stiff prison sentences of three and a half years each for allegedly proselytizing a Greek Orthodox youth and estranging him from his family.

The Athens court found Mr Alan Williams, aged 51, who holds dual British and New Zealand citizenship, Mr Don Stephens, aged 39, of Colorado, and Mr Constantine Makris, president of the Hellenic Apostolic Mission, guilty during a weekend hearing lasting 16 hours.

The judges were told that Constantine Kotopoulos, aged 16, had become friendly with the missionaries at Elefsis, a port west of Athens in 1981 in the hope of improving his English, but later joined their faith.

The defendants were at the time converting an 11,700-ton vessel bought in Italy into a

"ministry ship" equipped with a 50-bed hospital to bring relief to disaster areas all over the world. The ship was named *Anastasis II* (Greek for Resurrection).

The ship was a project launched by "Youth with a Mission", an American-financed evangelical organization which claims 35,000 members in 50 countries. The vessel is now in Los Angeles.

Mr Williams, chaplain of the *Anastasis II*, and Mr Stephens, in charge of training, returned to Athens this week to try to clear their names when they heard they had been sued by the boy's mother.

Both said they had refrained from seeing the boy after his divorced mother had obtained a restraining order. The boy said he was a Protestant.

The defendants said they were prepared to go to jail and spend Christmas there. But they were freed pending an appeal hearing.

Busy year ahead in space

From Our Own Correspondent, Washington

The United States hopes to launch 13 shuttle missions next year to deliver communications satellites and a number of secret military satellites, plus conducting research and experiments.

Only six missions have been firmly scheduled, and one by the Challenger may be delayed because of repairs to the heat shield. Challenger was originally due to deliver a secret Air Force satellite on December 8, but Discovery is now due to fly in its place on January 23. After that, the projected schedule is as follows:

Feb 20: Challenger is to deliver a shuttle tracking satellite and a Felsat Canada Communications

satellite. This launch may be delayed by the heat shield problem. About 4,000 heat-resistant tiles have to be removed because a bonding layer underneath the tiles has softened.

March 19: Discovery to retrieve an experimental package left in orbit last April and to launch a Navy Communications satellite.

April 30: Challenger takes up a space laboratory.

May 30: Discovery to launch three communications satellites.

July 9: Challenger to fly again on a seven-day mission conducting experiments.

July 24: Discovery to deliver three communications satellites

– one for the Navy, one for Australia, and one for the American Satellite Corporation. Sept 1: First flight of the shuttle Atlantis on a secret Defence Department mission.

Oct 4: Columbia to carry a space laboratory for West Germany.

Oct 5: Discovery to make the first flight from the new shuttle pad at Vandenberg Air Force base, California.

Nov 6: Challenger to deliver three communications satellites.

Nov 27: Atlantis to deposit two satellites.

Dec 20: Columbia to deliver two communications satellites.

Banknote torrent drowning Israel

Jerusalem (Reuters) – Israel's inflation-plagued economy has deteriorated to a point where the country is totally dependent on the good will of the United States, the Communications Minister, Mr Amnon Rubinstein, admitted yesterday.

Mr Rubinstein, who represents the centrist Shinui Party in the nine-party coalition, told Israel radio that the Government was sabotaging the success of a three-month price and wage freeze, designed to slow down the current inflation rate of 800 per cent a year, by printing huge quantities of money to finance subsidies of imported fuel and basic foodstuffs.

"We are drowning in a torrent of banknotes," he said. Israel's economic situation has brought us to total dependence on the United States," Mr Rubinstein added.

Bank of Israel officials have said the Government has been printing shekels at the rate of about \$16 million a day so far this month.

The Foreign Minister, Mr Yitzhak Shamir, told yesterday's weekly Cabinet meeting that, "contrary to some published reports, the United States has not refused to increase aid to Israel."

Last week Israel asked Washington for \$4 billion for 1986 and an extra \$800 million in addition to the \$2.6 billion already promised.

Finance Ministry officials have said that the country's foreign currency reserves could run out by the middle of 1985 unless massive United States aid was forthcoming.

The Reagan Administration has said it is postponing a decision on the request and some Israel newspapers have interpreted the response as a sign that Washington would not provide more aid until the Israeli Government took sweeping austerity measures.

The Cabinet yesterday approved the appointment of Mr Yosef Burg, head of the National Religious Party, as Minister of Religious Affairs and of Mr Yitzhak Peretz, of the Shas Party, as Minister of the Interior, thus ending a dispute over ministerial funding for religious activities between the two parties which last week threatened to bring down the Government.

The Prime Minister, Mr Shimon Peres, has headed both ministries for three months, promising to settle conflicting demands for the posts.

● **TEL AVIV:** Israeli police yesterday announced that they had foiled an attack on the US Embassy by Arab gunmen earlier this month and had released six prisoners (Moshe Brilliant writes).

A communiqué issued after the story appeared in the American media, said the suspects did not belong to a terrorist organization.

Passenger shoots New York muggers

New York (Reuters) – A passenger, apparently afraid he would be attacked by four muggers on an underground train, pulled out a gun and methodically shot all four in the chest, police said.

Two of the four were listed in a critical condition in hospital and the other two in a serious condition. Police said three had criminal records.

The train's conductor, who heard the shots and stopped the train, found four men sprawled on the floor and a man in a seat holding a gun. The conductor asked the man if he was a police officer. "No," the man replied. "The conductor asked if he had a licence for the gun. 'No,' was the reply."

The man then ran past the conductor, jumped off the train and escaped, police said.

More killer chemical found

Bhopal (Reuters) – Scientists on Saturday ended neutralization of 25.5 tonnes of the lethal chemical which killed 2,500 people here – nearly twice the amount shown in factory records.

"Operation Faith" to turn liquid methyl isocyanate into pesticide, was completed two days late because of extra quantities found in an underground tank and steel drums at The Union Carbide plant.

Lloyd loses

Sydney (Reuters) – An Australian appeal court has overturned a \$100,000 damages award to the West Indies cricket captain, Clive Lloyd, for alleged defamation by *The Melbourne Age* newspaper, which in 1982 queried whether commercial pressures had led to the West Indies losing a World Series match against Australia.

Given the chop

Peking (Reuters) – A day after chopsticks were called unhygienic by Mr Hu Yaobang, China's Communist Party chief, *The People's Daily* has praised the Western style of eating off individual plates with a knife and fork. Saying it reflects a "civilized, healthy and scientific way of life."

Sit-in ended

Amnecy (AFP) – Riot police used wire-cutters to breach a fence at the French headquarters of the US Gillette razor company, ending a two-week occupation by 30 striking employees.

No survivors

Orangeville, Utah (Reuters) – Rescue workers have found the bodies of 25 people killed in the Utah coal mine disaster and have abandoned hope of finding two men still missing, the Emery Mining Company said.

Budget boost

Ankara (Reuters) – Turkey's parliament has approved a 1985 budget of \$13bn (£11bn), a slight increase from the Government's draft.

Piece of cake

Brussels (AP) – A Belgian baker sold what he claimed is the longest Christmas cake ever made – a "yule log" measuring 54ft 4in – at 10 francs (13p) a slice to help poor children.

Emergency US airlift to Sudan refugees

Washington (Reuters) – President Reagan has ordered an emergency airlift to help ensure the survival of tens of thousands of people fleeing from Ethiopia's famine into the Sudan, the US Aid Administrator, Mr Peter McPherson said here.

Mr McPherson, who briefed Mr Reagan on Saturday, said the action was in response to an appeal from the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, Mr Paul Hartling.

The first flight by an Air Force C-130 is due to land at Kassala in eastern Sudan today with relief supplies from the US Agency for International Development disaster stockpile in Livorno, Italy.

Today, the first shipment of privately-donated measles vaccine for 100,000 people will arrive by commercial aircraft in Khartoum. It will be taken overland to Kassala, where the lives of many children are threatened by the disease.

The massive flow of refugees to Sudan is swamping UN and Sudanese efforts to care for them. Mr McPherson said. Just outside Kassala, more than 35,000 Ethiopians have no locally available water, no shelter and little food, he added.

● **KHARTOUM:** Senator Edward Kennedy arrived here to see at first hand the situation in Sudan.

Kremlin praise for Gorbachov visit

From Richard Owen, Moscow

Soviet officials expressed satisfaction yesterday with the outcome of Mr Mikhail Gorbachov's visit to Britain last week, saying that, even though it had been cut short by Marshal Ustinov's death, there had already been a distinct gain for Anglo-Soviet relations.

But the officials said privately that the British Government might now "step up anti-Soviet propaganda" in order to remind the British people of the Soviet threat and allay any American fears that Britain had been lulled by Mr Gorbachov's charm into a sense of false security.

Mr Gorbachov's talks were given prominent treatment in the Soviet media, and *Pravda* praised the 53-year-old leader for bringing a "new sense of reality" to London. Russian readers and viewers were not told of Mr Gorbachov's personal impact, or that of his elegant and personable wife, Raisa. Such details are frowned on by the Kremlin and only the leader himself is allowed a "cult of personality".

Observers said Mr Gorbachov would have to be careful not to be seen to challenge the 73-year-old Mr Chernenko. On the other hand, the fact that Mr Gorbachov announced the news of Marshal Ustinov's death on Friday in Edinburgh, hours before the news was given to the Soviet people by Moscow television, underlines his confidence and stature.

Pravda said the visit had opened up broad possibilities for the expansion of trade, which would not only benefit both countries economically but would also "make a major contribution towards the improvement of the overall climate of Soviet-British relations".

R.A. quoted Lord Jellicoe.

Russia after Ustinov

chairman of the Overseas Trade Board – who visited Moscow on the eve of Mr Gorbachov's trip – as deploping the fact that Britain had slipped far down the list of Russia's trading partners. The trading possibilities were now "truly boundless", however, Lord Jellicoe told *Pravda*.

Soviet officials said they were gratified that Mrs Thatcher had opposed further space weapons developments during her discussions with Mr Gorbachov. They hoped the Prime Minister would impress this view on President Reagan, even though she had subsequently reiterated Britain's firm links with the United States and had strongly backed Mr Reagan's views on "Star Wars" systems.

"We understand that Britain is part of an alliance," one source said. "The Soviet press has described Mr Gorbachov's talks as constructive. Observers said the visit had added to Mr Gorbachov's stature at a time when the death of Marshal Ustinov had underlined the mortality of the Politburo's older generation. On the other hand, Mr Gorbachov would have to ensure that he was not accused in Kremlin circles of having allowed the visit to revolve round his youthful and energetic image."

As Mrs Thatcher arrived in Washington at the weekend for talks with President Reagan, Tass vehemently attacked the "Star Wars" concept. It said the Pentagon's hopes that Moscow could "give its blessings" to the programme, and even share the military technology involved, were "absolutely groundless".

Mr Reagan's argument amounted to the assertion that millions of people in Britain, France, Russia and elsewhere who favoured peace in space were "allegedly not altogether aware of the facts", Tass commented.

Leading article, page 9

Svetlana to live in Stalin's homeland

Svetlana Alliluyeva, Stalin's daughter, has been granted permission to live in her father's native republic of Georgia with her American-born daughter, Olga, sources in Tbilisi have confirmed. Richard Owen writes from Moscow.

Svetlana, who returned to the Soviet Union two months ago after 17 years in the West, initially took up residence at a Moscow hotel. But a week ago she travelled to Tbilisi to request a Georgian residence permit. Sources in Tbilisi said a letter granting her residence rights had been read to local party meetings.

She and Olga have been allocated a flat in a prestige block reserved for Georgian VIPs.

Sources said Olga, aged 13, would attend School No. 53 in Tbilisi. She is learning Russian and will also learn Georgian.

Sokolov is safe choice for the job

From Richard Owen, Moscow

By choosing Marshal Sergei Sokolov, aged 73, to head the Defence Ministry, the Politburo has reverted to the traditional Soviet practice of putting defence in the hands of an experienced senior career officer rather than a party and government official like Marshal Dmitry Ustinov. On the other hand, in view of his age, Marshal Sokolov could be a temporary custodian of the defence portfolio. He is in any case likely to prove a cautious and orthodox minister.

Marshal Sokolov came to prominence November 7 this year when he deputized for the ailing Marshal Ustinov at the annual military parade. He



Marshal Sokolov: Does not wield Ustinov's power.

had been First Deputy Defence Minister since 1967, and President Chernenko has in effect made the safest choice by promoting the next in line according to protocol.

Marshal Sokolov does not wield the political power of Marshal Ustinov, a key member of the Kremlin old guard.

Sergei Leonidovich Sokolov was born on July 1, 1911, at Yevpatoriya in the Crimea. His official biography says he came from an office worker's family. After a brief spell in industry, he joined the Army in 1932, becoming a party member five years later. As a young officer, Marshal Sokolov gravitated towards tanks and heavy armour divisions, eventually becoming a battalion commander.

Marshal Sokolov survived the Stalin purges of the Red Army and in the post war years climbed steadily the military ladder by taking specialized courses in tanks and mechanized armour at military academies, including the General Staff College, where he rubbed shoulders with senior officers. By 1969 he was head of the Moscow military district general staff, moving the equivalent position in Leningrad four years later.

Marshal Sokolov was recalled to Moscow in 1967 to become First Deputy Defence Minister, gaining the rank of Marshal in 1978.

Couple freed unharmed from island kidnappers

Noumea, (AFP) – The brother of a militant supporter of New Caledonian independence and his girlfriend spoke yesterday of their three-day kidnapping ordeal when police surrounded the farm where they were held hostage.

Armand Guirat, the 31-year-old son of a leading French ethnologist and a brother of a campaigner for Melanesian rights, was kidnapped on Friday with his friend by anti-independence settlers at a roadblock in Bourail, on the west coast of this French Pacific territory. Bourail has become a stronghold of pro-French white settlers in the recent agitation for independence by native Melanesians.

Mr Guirat said his kidnappers

wanted to exchange him for his brother, René. "They said they would not hand René over to the police," he explained. All they wanted him to do was to make him leave the island.

René has lived on New Caledonia for four years and is on a pro-Melanesian committee seeking to force white settlers to move from the west coast plains that constitute the island's main agricultural land.

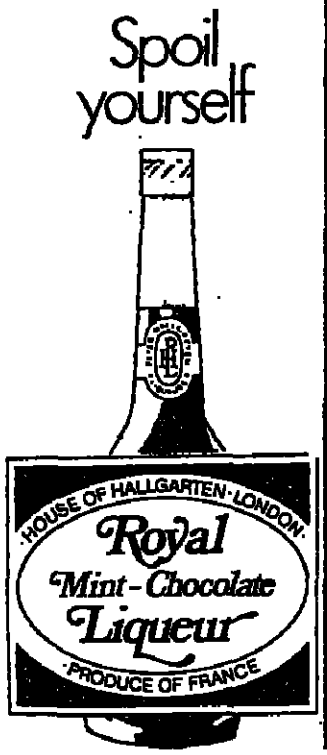
The couple said two helicopters passed overhead yesterday morning, which appeared to frighten their kidnappers, who took them into the bush. When police found them, the kidnappers did not put up any resistance. Seven people were arrested.

Gas blast kills 100 in Tbilisi block of flats

From Our Own Correspondent, Moscow

A gas explosion ripped through a nine-storey block of flats in Tbilisi earlier this month, killing more than 100 people, according to eye-witnesses in the Georgian capital. The explosion apparently was caused by a gas leak. Earlier reports of a bomb are widely discounted.

The reports arose because one victim of the explosion was the KGB investigator dealing with the case of nine young Georgians who tried unsuccessfully to hijack an Aeroflot airliner to Turkey a year ago to escape to the West.



Lee hints at changes in electoral system after voters dent his majority

From Stephen Taylor
Singapore

Singapore's increasingly youthful and affluent electorate sent out a clear signal to Mr Lee Kuan Yew in Saturday's general election for a more compassionate and less authoritarian style of government.

Mr Lee's People's Action Party (PAP), which secured clean sweeps at the last three elections, lost two seats to opposition candidates and, perhaps more significantly, had its share of the overall vote reduced from 75 per cent in 1980 to 63 per cent.

The Prime Minister responded at his traditional post-election press conference that he did not see the result as a rebuke, but expressed misgivings about the one-man one-vote system and indicated possible electoral changes.

Having won all the 77 remaining seats in an enlarged parliament, the PAP retained an overwhelming majority, but there was no disguising the party's disappointment, or its failure to gauge the extent of disgruntlement over controversial domestic issues.

Saying he did not want to be "apocalyptic", Mr Lee went on, however, "If it continues this way, the one-man one-vote system must lead to our decline, if not our disintegration."

Asked if he envisaged any alternatives, he said there might be modifications "to see it does

STATE OF PARTIES

Party	Cand.	Seats	Votes	%
People's Action Party	79	77	558,310	64.38
Workers Party	15	1	110,939	12.78
Singapore Democratic Party	4	1	24,805	3.7
Others	22	0	160,553	18.2

not run too far." Pressed further, he added that it "might be necessary to put safeguards in the way people use their votes to coerce."

The sole opposition MP in the last parliament, Mr Ben Jeyaretnam, leader of the Workers Party, retained the Anson constituency, which he won at a by-election in 1981, with an increased majority. He will be joined in opposition by Mr Chien See Tong, who won the Singapore Democratic Party's first parliamentary seat by a comfortable margin.

Both men campaigned on calls to turn back encroachments by the PAP into private life. Their victories were gained in spite of a personal admonition to their constituents by Mr Lee.

A jubilant Mr Jeyaretnam said: "Singapore is now firmly on the road to democracy."

Three other constituencies came close to falling to the Workers Party, which fielded 15 candidates. But voters moved towards all seven opposition parties and even some rank

"no-hopers" received 25 per cent of the vote in their constituencies.

It was this protest element which led Mr Lee to describe the vote as an attempt by a new generation "to put pressure on the PAP - to be more generous in our policies, less austere". Out of this he saw a possibility that the young might forge a consensus with a new set of goals for Singapore. "Eyebrows will be raised, but adversity can always be turned to advantage", he said.

From the outset, youth had been the dominant feature of the election. While the PAP sought to transfer control to a new generation of politicians, there was always danger of a youthful backlash to the patronizing elements of government policy. As the campaign wore on, the ruling party was forced increasingly on to the defensive.

One of the few encouraging aspects for Mr Lee was the solid endorsement gained by his son, Brigadier Lee Hsien Loong. Contesting his first election and burdened by the hopes of those who see him as his father's natural successor, the young Lee was one of only three PAP candidates to gain more than 80 per cent support in their constituencies.

The Prime Minister is expected to name his Cabinet in the next few days and Brigadier Lee is likely to be given his first real political responsibility, possibly in the health portfolio.

Bachelor lawyer to lead Malta

From Austin Sammut,
Valletta

The new Prime Minister of Malta is Dr Carmelo Mifsud Bonnici, who was sworn in just after Mr Dom Mintoff announced his resignation on Saturday night.

The former Prime Minister, who is 68, said he would continue to occupy his seat in Parliament. At present he is still leader of the Malta Labour Party, although he is expected to hand over the leadership to Dr Mifsud Bonnici.

Mr Mintoff has been considering his resignation for some months. It had been expected for some time that he would resign on Saturday, after his return from an official visit to Moscow.

According to informed sources, he was to have handed over to Dr Mifsud Bonnici in early October but postponed his announcement because of the crisis in Malta over the future of church schools.

In his last speech as Prime Minister Mr Mintoff assured members of the Opposition that whatever he might have said in the heat of the moment, he had not intended to hurt individuals.

He also announced that oil and gas deposits had been found near the Malta coast



Dr Mifsud Bonnici: Never fought an election.

during the last two weeks. While it remained to be seen whether extracting them was commercially viable, reports were optimistic.

The new Prime Minister is a lawyer. In 1980 he was elected deputy leader to succeed Mr Mintoff.

A 51-year-old bachelor, he has never contested a general election. He was co-opted an MP in 1983 and appointed senior Deputy Prime Minister. His last post was Minister of Education.

Mintoff epoch brought radical upheaval

From Our Correspondent, Valletta

Mr Dom Mintoff became leader of the Malta Labour Party in 1949 after ousting Dr (later Sir) Paul Boffa on his return from Oxford, where he was a Rhodes Scholar. The party took an immediate swing to the left and there was a resurgence of working-class support.

He was first elected Prime Minister in 1955, backing a programme for Malta's integration with Britain. But talks failed, and in 1958, after civil disorder on the island, he and his government resigned.

By 1964, when Malta was granted independence, he had come round to it himself, although disagreeing with his contemporary, the nationalist leader, Dr George Borg Olivier, on the method of obtaining it and the mode of sustaining it.

In the early 1960s, Mr Mintoff clashed with the Church, led by the militant archbishop, Sir Michael Gonzi, and was the subject of a Vatican interdict. This fierce battle left its mark, although shortly before his return to power in 1971, peace was made. In the past 35 years, Mr Mintoff has been the most dominant and controversial personality in Malta. But the years since 1971 will stand out as the Mintoff epoch when his particular brand of socialism brought one radical

change after another. Within six months of becoming Prime Minister in June 1971, he had engaged the British Government in a battle for increased financial aid in return for base facilities. In March 1972, agreement was reached.

After coming to terms with most opposition MPs, he abolished the monarchy and instituted a republic in 1974.

In 1979 came what has been hailed by his supporters as his finest hour: the closure of the British military base and resultant "expulsion of the foreigner".

Ironically, it was at this point that Mr Mintoff's popularity and that of his party, which he dominated and personified, began to wane. After the 1981 general election, he had a parliamentary majority but the popular vote went in favour of the opposition Nationalist Party.

His foreign policy has always been unpredictable. Declaring Malta's neutrality, he then signs military agreements with North Korea and Libya, and provides bunkering facilities for the Soviet Union.

In one area, he has been consistent: hard bargaining. Many will find it difficult to believe that Dom Mintoff has finally retired.

Chinese to sign trade agreement with Russia

From Mary Lee
Peking

China and the Soviet Union will take another step towards improving relations by signing a long-term economic and trade agreement before next July, a Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman, Mr Yu Zhizhong, said yesterday that the agreement would be for the period 1986-90, the length of China's seventh five-year plan.

Three rounds of talks have taken place between the visiting Soviet First Deputy Prime Minister, Mr Ivan Arkhipov, and the Chinese Second Vice-Premier, Mr Yao Yilin, on co-operation in the economic, scientific, trade and technical fields.

Mr Yu said the discussions were held in a friendly and constructive atmosphere.

Mr Arkhipov will be visiting Shenzhen, China's showcase special economic zone in Guangdong province, and Hong Kong, to see for himself how China has integrated capitalist enterprises in its socialist fabric. He will also visit Canton, the provincial capital, which enjoys far greater economic freedom than anywhere else in the country, and Wuhan.

Mr Arkhipov was the chief Soviet adviser here while China was drawing up its first five-year plan in the 1950s.

Without going into details, Mr Yu said Mr Arkhipov and Mr Yao had exchanged views on international issues of common concern and on bilateral relations. Saturday's People's Daily reported that Mr Yao "sincerely hoped the two countries will normalize relations and restore friendship and good neighbourliness".

This means China wants the Soviet Union to reduce its troop strength along the common border, withdraw from Afghanistan, and end its support of Vietnam's occupation of Cambodia.

Western sources, however, point out that, while efforts are being made to boost Sino-Soviet Trade to \$1.4 billion this year, much of the trade is on a barter basis. It will be interesting to see whether the new agreement will enable China to pay for heavy Soviet machinery needed to upgrade the industrial projects the Russians helped build more than 20 years ago.

● NO PURGE: China will not bring to justice any of Mao Tse-tung's fanatical Red Guards who killed and humiliated millions in many parts of China in 1966 (Reuters reports).

Mr Bo Yibo, co-ordinator of a national Communist Party campaign to eradicate ultra-leftism, told a Central Committee meeting that the party had decided not to investigate former Red Guards "because they were too young to understand" - the New China News Agency reported.

The biggest democratic election in the world



Picture power: Rajiv Gandhi's £2 million election publicity dwarfs his opponents' campaigns. Photograph: Sophie Baker.

India expects Rajiv to win with ease

From Michael Hamlyn
Delhi

Three hundred and ninety million electors begin going to the polls today in the biggest expression of democratic choice anywhere in the world, and unless political maturity and opinion polls are totally to be disgraced will elect Mr Rajiv Gandhi's Congress (I) party back to power with a thumping majority.

A billion photographs of the young Prime Minister decorate walls, bridges and rocks the country round. They are plastered like postage stamps on advertisement hoardings and flutter like bunting from strings across countless city streets.

People are voting for the

Congress Party because, like a senior and distinguished old boy of the Prime Minister's school, "I think the candidate in my constituency, Mr K. C. Pant, is a good man", or like Pyarelal Aurora, a cook, "I'll have voted Congress all my life and my father did before me". Others will be voting Congress because Congress politicians have protected them from eviction or prosecution, or because the candidate is from the same caste or religion.

Many will be voting for continuity, for giving the young man a chance, and because he seems to be winning and everyone likes to be on the winning side.

According to opinion polls, the Congress Party stands to

gain around 57 per cent of the popular vote. Since in 1983 Mrs Indira Gandhi, Mr Gandhi's assassinated mother, obtained two-thirds of the seats in Parliament with only 42.7 per cent of the votes, it is possible that some dramatic extinction of the Opposition may occur. On the other hand, it is notoriously difficult to construct a model of the Indian electorate that will accurately forecast voting preferences to within 10 percentage points either way.

In the most recent poll, in the fortnightly magazine *India Today*, suggested that Congress would win 366 seats of the reconstituted house.

However, 13 seats in Punjab and 14 in Assam have been put off indefinitely because of the troubles there. Snow has caused voting to be postponed in the Ladakh constituency of Jammu and Kashmir and in three other constituencies - in Madras North in Tamil Nadu, in Srikakulam in Andhra Pradesh, and in Chail in Uttar Pradesh. The appalling tragedy in Bhopal, where more than 2,000 people died of gas poisoning, has likewise caused the postponement of the poll there. The snowbound voters will cast their votes in June; the other four constituencies will vote on January 28.

In the union territory of Mizoram, there will be no election because the Congress candidate in the only constituency there has no opposition.

Twelve states and six union territories will have their elections today. Two states and two union territories will vote on December 27, four major

PARTY CANDIDATES

In all, 5,301 candidates are fighting the election, the eighth since the Constitution was established in 1950. The largest number are independents. Those candidates supported by parties are as follows:

Congress	492
Bharatiya Janata Party	226
Janata Party	207
Lok Dal	188
Communist Party of India	61
Communist Party of India (Marxist)	58
Congress (Socialist)	32
State Parties (DMK, ADMK, NC etc.)	117
Others	142

states including the largest of them all, Uttar Pradesh, will poll on both days. Two states in the mountainous north-east will have their election on December 28.

The votes will begin to be counted on December 28 with some results being declared that evening.

1,000 held in strike-hit Bangladesh

Dhaka (Reuters) - About 1,000 people were arrested throughout Bangladesh and two people were killed in clashes with police on the first day of a 48-hour anti-government national strike.

Shops and factories were shut yesterday, and most transport stayed off the roads as the strike entered its second day. Troops continued to patrol the main towns.

About 5,000 university students in the northern town of Rajshahi began evacuating the campus, where violence erupted on Saturday after police shot dead a student leader.

Authorities asked students to leave after the student and another person were killed and at least a dozen people injured as police dispersed a crowd trying to stop a train.

Residents in Rajshahi said they staged demonstrations and fought pitched battles with police, who used tear gas and batons. They said the town was still tense.

Students were also told to leave Dhaka university. The main opposition groups, which called the strike to try to force President Ershad to end military rule, called it an unprecedented success which proved that people had no confidence in the military Government.

The strike went ahead despite the President's promise last week to withdraw martial law, abolish all military courts and prepare for parliamentary elections next April. Opposition leaders said the promises were not sincere.

Sri Lanka peace formula rebuffed by all

From Donovan Moldrich, Colombo

President Jayewardene's scheme for a devolution of power in Sri Lanka through provincial councils has been rejected by the main Tamil parties, influential sections of his own United National Party Government, the Supreme Council of the Buddhist clergy, and the main opposition Freedom Party, led by Mrs Sirimavo Bandaranaike, the former Prime Minister.

The President told the concluding session of the all-party conference on the problems of the Tamil minority on Friday

that he hoped his scheme would bring some peace, stability and unity to the country and that he was prepared to submit it to a national referendum or a general election.

Leaders of the Tamil United Liberation Front told the president on Saturday that the conference fell far short of the regional autonomy they were seeking for the Tamil northern and eastern provinces. They said the repetition of some of the features of the scheme for district development councils

involved in 1980 was totally unacceptable to the Tamil people.

In a memorandum they said that while they had endeavoured to work out a peaceful solution, time was now running out.

Mr Cyril Mathew, Minister of Industries and Scientific Affairs, who is also president of the powerful Janatha Sevaka Sangamaya (National Workers' Union), said he was unable to advise anyone to agree to the proposed legislation for provincial councils or a second

chamber. Dr Walpola Rahula, secretary of the Supreme Council of the Buddhist Clergy, which boycotted the last two meetings of the all-party conference, said President Jayewardene's proposals, judged "from the outward signs", would spell doom for the country.

Mrs Bandaranaike asked the government to drop its proposals entirely, on the ground that they would lead to a division of the country along the lines of narrow sectarian and personal interests.

It's the same old story this Christmas.

A child is born. A mother and child search for shelter. They may by now be dead, or more dead than alive, among the hungry on the move in Africa.

Christian Aid has been getting through to the disaster areas in Ethiopia with over £1 million worth of food, medicines and trucks in the last few weeks (over £3½ million since January), distributed through local churches and relief agencies.

But relief is not enough. That is why we are also giving seed, tools and oxen to the poor. Unless the land is developed, another disaster will follow this one. And more countries in Africa will follow Ethiopia.

To bring good news to the poor is what the Christmas story is really about.

Can you think of anything better to do this Christmas Eve?

To: Christian Aid, P.O. Box 1, London SW9 8BH.

*I enclose cheque/P.O. for £ / Please debit my Access Card/credit card

Account No. / We can reclaim tax on converted gifts from U.K. taxpayers

Tick box for details. ☐

Signature _____

Name _____

Address _____

If receipt needed tick here. ☐

SPECTRUM

A body teaser to exercise the brain

Keep the Christmas torpor
at bay with this quiz

devised by games master
Tom Kremer. It has two
versions - difficult and ultra
difficult - and should provide
all the mental challenge you
require over the holiday

Each version is divided into 10 sections. The 10 questions in each section relate, in some single or curious way, to one specific part of the body.
As well as the challenge of answering the questions, each version of the quiz conceals a surprise. To complete the game and enjoy the full satisfaction of winning, the reader will have to discover this surprise and solve the problem it contains.
The surprise is in the form of a sentence. The sentence is made up of 10 words. The words are hidden in the correct answers, not in the questions. There is one and only one hidden word in each section.
The hidden word is found by taking in sequence a specific letter from each first word of a number of correct answers.

The length of the word determines the number of answers involved and the specific letter is indicated after each relevant question.
Example:
Q: Who ran the first marathon? (5th)
A: Pheidippides.
Therefore the letter "d" is the relevant one.
When a name constitutes the answer the surname is placed first and is the one that counts. To determine the first word of an answer ignore the word "the".
To make up the sentence, the hidden words follow the following sequence:
Difficult: hand, eye, ear, blood, leg, hair, neck, heart, brain and stomach.
Ultra difficult: hand, leg, hair, heart, blood, ear, stomach, eye, neck, brain.

ANSWERS ON PAGE 10

HAND



- Questions difficult**
- Where were the Boxer risings? (3rd)
 - Of what are fingernails made? (7th)
 - What do you measure in hands? (4th)
 - What is regarded as the outstanding characteristic of the human hand? (5th)
 - What did Gutenberg invent? (6th)
 - Which cricket-keeper holds the record for the greatest number of dismissals in first-class cricket? (7th)
 - What is graphology? (8th)
 - Which prime minister was a world famous pianist? (9th)
 - Who faked a hand and fooled his father? (10th)
 - Which finger is least used when playing classical guitar? (11th)
- Questions ultra difficult**
- Which world renowned pianist had only one arm? (1st)
 - Pork and bananas? (1st)
 - Which artist changed hands late in his career? (4th)
 - Which astrological sign rules the hand? (5th)
 - What did the Black Hand start? (6th)
 - What does karate mean? (7th)
 - Which philosopher worked for a while as a goalkeeper? (8th)
 - Who was Learned Hand? (9th)
 - What did the hand on the wall write? (10th)
 - What hands beat a flush? (11th)

EYE



- Questions difficult**
- What is pink eye? (8th)
 - What contribution has the sable made to art? (5th)
 - Who was the blind poet? (4th)
 - Who first saw sunspots? (6th)
 - Which birds have the keenest vision? (7th)
 - What is foot's gold? (8th)
 - Who was Polyphemus? (9th)
 - What is the most common form of colour blindness? (10th)
 - What is an American expression for the direct confrontation between two people? (11th)
 - Who directed "Silent Movie"? (12th)
- Questions ultra difficult**
- What does "iris" mean? (1st)
 - Who put what where at Copenhagen? (5th)
 - Which Jewish optician was excommunicated? (5th)
 - What was the first full-length feature film made in three-colour Technicolor? (4th)
 - What did Roger Shattuck describe as "the first artistic movement entirely organized in cafes"? (6th)
 - Who had 100 eyes, half of which slept while the other half kept watch? (7th)
 - Who invented the telescope? (8th)
 - Who first observed bacteria? (9th)
 - What do the following have in common: quarks, black holes, the earth's core and pulsars? (10th)
 - How many fibres in the optic nerve? (11th)



EAR

- Questions difficult**
- Whose ear started a war? (7th)
 - Which percussion instrument can produce melody? (5th)
 - Which instrument is sucked? (7th)
 - Who invented the phonograph? (2nd)
 - Name the two common blue notes? (6th)
 - Who was the first recording superstar? (3rd)
 - What made a particularly loud noise in 1883? (4th)
 - What connects your ear to your throat? (8th)
 - Van Gogh cut off his ear during an altercation with whom? (9th)
 - Whose ear prompted payment of over £1 million? (10th)
- Questions ultra difficult**
- What was the Devil in music? (1st)
 - Who first produced and detected radio waves? (1st)
 - What did "Fleurbaey" African? (1st)
 - What is concert pitch? (2nd)
 - Which major composer was born in Bradford? (3rd)
 - What is the time signature of the chimes of Big Ben? (4th)
 - What is the smallest human bone? (5th)
 - Which influential composer wrote "433", an entirely silent work? (6th)
 - What is the scientific term for the study of the ear and its diseases? (7th)
 - What nationality was the composer Josquin des Prez? (8th)

BLOOD

- Questions difficult**
- Who does not suffer from haemophilia? (1st)
 - Who discovered the circulation of the blood? (5th)
 - Who prescribed blood and iron as a tonic for his nation's flag? (5th)
 - Vampire antidote? (6th)
 - What is bloodstain? (7th)
 - What are the four major blood groups of man? (8th)
 - Which physiological characteristic is often an advantage to athletes? (9th)
 - What did Colonel Blood steal? (10th)
 - Where does Bull's Blood come from? (11th)
 - An unconventional, but useful medical pet? (12th)
- Questions ultra difficult**
- Which city was named after a blood goddess? (5th)
 - Which British Prime Minister was assassinated? (1st)
 - Which blood sport was banned in 1973? (2nd)
 - Which common blood disorder confers some protection against the effects of malaria? (3rd)
 - What is your spleen for? (4th)
 - Which was the "year of assassinations"? (5th)
 - Which constituent of the blood does carbon monoxide affect? (6th)
 - What does "leukaemia" mean? (7th)
 - What was the Tartar custom to create blood brothers? (8th)
 - How long are your blood vessels? (9th)

LEG

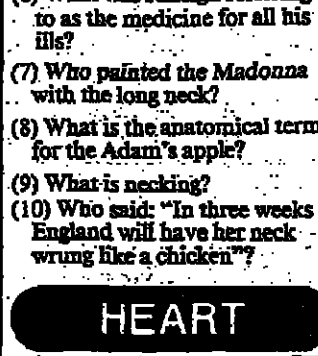
- Questions difficult**
- What painful disease usually strikes in the leg? (2nd)
 - Who was Britain's first film footballer? (1st)
 - Who was poisoned by Paris? (3rd)
 - Which poet had a club foot? (4th)
 - A seasonal ballet? (5th)
 - Who was set a riddle to do with a number of legs? (6th)
 - Which midwife likes to stand on one leg? (7th)
 - Who insured her legs for \$1m with Lloyd's? (8th)
 - Who died as a result of doing the splits? (9th)
 - What is worn by the select men on their leg and the select women on their arm? (10th)
- Questions ultra difficult**
- What is a more endearing term for a crane fly? (1st)
 - Who could execute an entrechat-dix? (2nd)
 - Foot, Foot, Foot, Foot - give first names? (3rd)
 - Which Astaire was a star dancer before Fred? (2nd)
 - Which monarch performed frequently as a ballet dancer? (3rd)
 - He was Italian, a queen's dentist, his nickname was "Iron-Legs". Real name? (4th)
 - What was introduced in the 1880s to uphold a fashion? (5th)
 - One of the world's greatest dancers was the daughter of Haydn's valet. Who was she? (6th)
 - About which dance did *The Times* write: "Voluptuous intertwining of the limbs, the close compressure of the bodies: obscene display"? (7th)
 - In which game are some important decisions based not on what did happen but on what might have happened? (8th)

HAIR



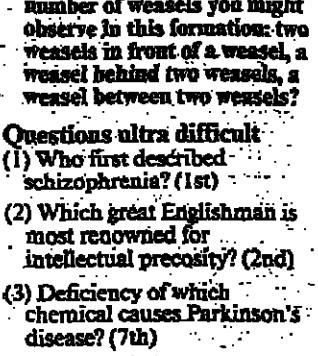
- Questions difficult**
- Which newspaper was named after a barber? (1st)
 - A national bird? (2nd)
 - Who painted a beard and mustache on the Mona Lisa? (3rd)
 - Which are stronger: straight or curly hairs? (4th)
 - There have been two bald American Presidents this century. Name them in order. (3rd)
 - How many hairs on the average human scalp? (5th)
 - Who wrote a satire about a lock of hair? (6th)
 - Which hirsute hero do you associate with Bartok and Offenbach? (7th)
 - What does the barber's sign signify? (8th)
 - Odd one out: Hitler, Stalin, Mussolini, Chamberlain, Gandhi. (9th)
- Questions ultra difficult**
- Whose razor? (4th)
 - Who was caught by his hair in an oak? (1st)
 - Who was the Red Priest? (1st)
 - More hair than... *Comedy of Errors*, II (2nd)
 - Of whom did Gene Pitney say: "When I first met them I didn't know whether to say hello or bark"? (6th)
 - Who wrote about the hairless Mexican? (4th)
 - What are the two major parts of a hair? (5th)
 - Who pioneered the peruke? (6th)
 - Who wrote the opera "Vanessa"? (7th)
 - Who wrote "The Red Headed League"? (8th)

HEART



- Questions difficult**
- Where was the first human heart transplant performed? (2nd)
 - Passionate parrot? (2nd)
 - Abelard and who? (3rd)
 - Which great lover became a fibrillator? (4th)
 - Who sang "Heartbreak Hotel"? (5th)
 - Who left his heart in San Francisco? (6th)
 - Who wrote "The Heart of the Matter"? (7th)
 - Who wrote "Heart of Midlothian"? (8th)
 - How big is your heart? (9th)
 - Who has an artificial heart? (10th)
- Questions ultra difficult**
- Whose heart lies in Bournemouth? (3rd)
 - "Then nature ruled, and love, devoid of art, spoke the consenting language of the heart." Which poet? (2nd)
 - In what would you find heart rot? (1st)
 - Who wrote "My Heart Belongs to Daddy"? (5th)
 - What craft uses a heartboard? (5th)
 - Which card carries the greatest number of penalty points in the game hearts? (6th)
 - What film is based on Conrad's *Heart of Darkness*? (7th)
 - What is another name for heartsease? (8th)
 - What is tachycardia? (9th)
 - Who kidnapped Richard Lionheart? (10th)

STOMACH



- Questions difficult**
- What is the main ingredient of commercial baking powder? (4th)
 - A musical steak? (9th)
 - What are peptin and trypsin? (10th)
 - What is the rarest form of steak? (11th)
 - Can you live without a stomach? (12th)
 - What are sweatbands? (13th)
 - Who addressed a haggis? (14th)
 - What does chicken mawrags have to do with Trafalgar Square? (15th)
 - A plant that provides food and furniture? (16th)
 - Which soprano received two great culinary tributes? (17th)
- Questions ultra difficult**
- Guglielmo is a traditional Austrian what? (4th)
 - Who conceived the sandwich? Give full name. (3rd)
 - What can be blanket or honeycombed? (1st)
 - A raw food was used to cure pernicious anaemia. What was it? (2nd)
 - Who wrote an ode to a halibut? (6th)
 - What are considered the big three schools of Chinese cookery, in alphabetical order? (3rd)
 - What is the medical significance of lamb, cauliflower and peas? (7th)
 - There are some 500 varieties, but among the best known are the alphonso, bangalore and dursahi. What is it? (8th)
 - Who said that philosophers should not eat beans? (9th)
 - How many restaurants in France are given three stars by Michelin? (10th)

BRAIN



- Questions difficult**
- Which major writer was an epileptic? (4th)
 - What do the E, the m and the c represent in E-m-c? (4th)
 - Who prefer to count in twos? (5th)
 - Conan Doyle, Somerset Maugham and Borealis qualified as what? (4th)
 - Cupid's wife? (5th)
 - What is a polymath? (6th)
 - How can paint damage your head? (7th)
 - How much does your brain weigh? (8th)

When Boxing Day lasts all week

moreover... Miles Kington

Christmas! And that means only one thing - lots of television! Yes, from dawn to dusk we'll be showing you a non-stop festival of wonderful entertainment.

The Queen has her own show again this year and so does everyone else you've ever heard of, so put your TV turkey dinner on your lap, draw the curtains and settle down for 12 hilarious days of laughter and jollity.

High spot, of course, will be the Queen's own show which this year comes live from the Royal Yacht Britannia, where she'll be introducing some of her great memories of the year - including, with any luck, another look at Torvill and Dean!

There'll be a spectacular new edition of *The Two Ronnies*, without whom Christmas would be unimaginable and there'll be Mike Yarwood imitating anyone we couldn't afford to fly in from America.

And that's not all. There will be a breathtaking new version of *A Christmas Carol*, starring Joan Collins and Terry Wogan. We will be seeing Terry on his own

show, of course, talking to Father Christmas, the Three Wise Men, King Herod and anyone else who's in town, as well as Russell Harty who'll be introducing extracts from previous shows, including, if we're lucky, Torvill and Dean.

There will also be a three-day non-stop version of *Top of the Pops* in which you can see some of the best-loved stars of today age before your very eyes.

Top of the bill, undoubtedly, will be the Queen's own show, *Christmas on Britannia*, in which she is joined by such great stars as Torvill and Dean, Des O'Riordan, Steve Davis and Prince Charles doing his celebrated imitation of Mike Yarwood. There will also be an expanded version of *The Three Ronnies*, in which Barker and Corbett are joined by Ronnie Scott who will tell some of his best-

loved jokes and all of his best-loved ones. But if Christmas is about anything, it's about old movies, and we'll be showing no less than 500 of these over the holiday period, including every film made by Charlie Chaplin and Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid, or was that last year?

No matter, we'll be showing it again probably, and even if we aren't you've always got it on video, haven't you? Look out for a special Christmas edition of *Dallas*, in which everyone gets shot, and a special Christmas programme about the National Coal Board HQ, in which everyone gets fired.

Pick of the schedules, though, has got to be the Queen's own show, *I'm Dreaming of a Royal Christmas*, in which Her Majesty selects those bits of last year's output she'd most like to see again, so that may mean another chance to see Torvill and Dean!

And nobody is likely to miss the spectacular one-off edition of *The Four Ronnies*, in which Ronnie Biggs will be specially flown in to join the other three and tell some of the jokes that are rocking the Brazilians in the aisles this year.

Christmas, though, is about just one thing - comedy. And Ceeffax and Teletext and Oracle and all those other things that come on your screen when you press the wrong knob - they'll be joining together to present a spectacular non-stop collection of jokes which you can read to yourself, if you haven't heard them already on another show.

There'll also be a specially expanded festive edition of the weather forecast, showing what conditions are like in the Seychelles and Mauritius and all the other places where the TV stars are who recorded their Christmas shows months ago.

But if there's one show that must definitely not be missed, it's the Royal Christmas Spectacular from on board Britannia in which members of the Royal Family sing the songs which have become associated with them over the years - Prince Philip singing "I Did It My Way", the Queen singing "We Did It Our Way" and Princess Anne rendering "One Did It One's Way".

And surprise of the season? That's got to be the mammoth edition of *The Five Ronnies*, in which a very special guest is flown in from America. We're not allowed to say which Ronnie it is, but here's a clue: he can act a bit and he runs the most powerful nation on earth!

Christmas, though, is about one thing more than anything else: giving. And that's why Boxing Day is entirely devoted to a charity telethon - "The BBC in Need".

Don't miss your Thursday Times - we bring you the entire script!

CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 528)

- ACROSS**
- Supply (5)
 - Pirate (7)
 - Crum (5)
 - Repetition (7)
 - Dejected (8)
 - Unknown author (4)
 - Cautious (11)
 - Pink wine (4)
 - Telepathic people (8)
 - Neck vein (7)
 - Paris underground (5)
 - Remarkable (7)
 - Courage (5)
- DOWN**
- Interior (6)
 - Red Indian woman (5)
 - Effectiveness (8)
 - Neel evergreen (9,4)
 - Floating platform (4)
 - Ornament, realgar (7)
 - Give in (6)
 - Astronaut (8)
 - Acumen (7)
 - Hard worker (7)
 - On land (6)
 - Between (5)
 - Body fat (4)

Recommended dictionary is the New Collins Concise

SOLUTION TO JUMBO CONCISE

- ACROSS:** 1 Leading Tower of Pisa 10 Jurassic 16 Precinct 17 Ineligible 18 Scamper 19 Tenetbooks 20 Area 21 Abolitions 22 Cincin 23 Amorias 24 Turi from 25 Scapular 26 Simously 30 Hard pan 33 Set plans 34 Tablespoon 37 Mybabe 39 Orthodontic 41 Freezer-vanist 42 Treacherousness 43 Accelerator 44 Average 46 Large scale 47 Stallion 50 Karyoid 52 Solifoglio 54 Risk asset 56 Notice board 60 Moonset 61 Bander 63 Smoke bomb 64 Ionic 65 Land on earth 66 Deparis 67 Lazzybones 68 Imbroglio 69 Sardonox 70 Genetic engineering
- DOWN:** 1 Lipsicks 2 Avenius 3 Incremental 4 Grey hen 5 Optionally 6 Emission 7 Operational 8 Pretentiousness 9 Scarlet 11 Unselfish 12 Assembler 13 Support 14 Christian brothers 15 Eastland 17 Camones 19 Stonewall 31 Rancore 32 Paediatric 33 Short back and sides 35 Ancestral 36 Novice 37 Mutilates 38 Struli 40 Orchard 41 Predetermined 46 Cognoscenti 48 Lead the move 49 Pretending 51 Dubiously 52 Shabbily 53 Obscure 55 Torch song 57 Trooper 58 Cheerio 59 Drizzle 61 Book ban 62 Lorelei



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MONDAY PAGE

Who said that?

The Times looks back at some of the memorable quotes of 1984 and reminds you of who said what

January

I hope this year we shall be in that stage where, although there will be more redundancies, we shall be getting new businesses and extra business, so that we shall have employment leveling off. - Margaret Thatcher, January 5

The question is whether we can preserve the integrity and standing of the papers in the face of determined speculators who see an attractive balance sheet that could be stripped down. That is our prime task. - Clive Thornton, chairman of Mirror Group Newspapers, January 5

The Parthenon without the marbles is like a smile with a tooth missing. - Neil Kinnock, promising Greek Culture Minister Melina Mercouri that he would return the Elgin Marbles, January 6

There has been a long history of effective co-operation between the management and men in the coalfield. - Ian MacGregor, chairman of the National Coal Board, announcing the investment of £400 million in the Vale of Belvoir coalfield, January 10

We intend to be as helpful as we possibly can. - Peter Preston, editor of The Guardian, after Sarah Tisdall had been re-elected on bail, January 11

Humour? It is something that thrives between man's aspirations and his limitations. There is more logic in humour than in anything else. Because, you see, humour is truth. - Victor Gollancz, comedian and pianist, on his 75th birthday, January 13

February

There has not been the quality in our bowling over the last two or three years. We may miss Gooch and Boycott, but we also miss Lever, Old and Hendrick, guys you knew would run up to bowl and put the ball in the right place. - Bob Willis, England cricket captain, Auckland, New Zealand, February 8

Since 1980-81 demand for our cars in all world markets has continued to grow, and while our workforce fell from 10,500 making 14,000 cars in 1980 to 7,200 producing the same number in 1981, it has since grown to just over 8,000, making over 28,000 cars last year. This represents a trebling of productivity compared with 1980. - John Egan, chairman of the BL subsidiary Jaguar, February 21

For some people I seem to have become a left-wing hate figure and a symbolic punching bag, not long ago I had a bottle thrown at me from a car as I waited at a bus stop. My bicycle has had its tyres slashed and been covered with National Front stickers. Late last year I got on a train in Birmingham and was physically attacked by a crowd of hoodlums. I had to take refuge in the guard's van. - Peter Tatchell, former parliamentary candidate for Bermondsey, February 21

The Soviet system cannot even accept the first glimmerings of freedom of association or freedom of speech. We have never used our power to conquer; we have used our power to help others. - Casper Weinberger, US defense secretary, Oxford Union debate, February 27

March

I think it is more and more evident every day that we are becoming very, very close to any other damn police state. - Harold Pinter, The Times, March 16

A place to send your mother-in-law for a month, all expenses paid. - Ian Botham on Pakistan, March 17

Well, I felt it was immoral, and that the Secretary of State for Defence, who was accountable to Parliament, had decided he was not going to be accountable to Parliament on the particular day that the cruise missiles came. - Sarah Tisdall, March 27

When I came up to North Yorkshire, I thought I would find peace and contentment. Then the roof fell in. - Malcolm Allison after he was sacked by Second Division Middlesbrough, March 28

I think it is more and more evident every day that we are becoming very, very close to any other damn police state. - Harold Pinter in an interview in The Times, March 16



Daddy... ball... tractor... ant... who's that?... what's that?

Prince William's first public speech, June 13

April

Hands that once picked cotton, on Tuesday will pick a president. The waking of a sleeping giant has been a long time coming, but our time has come. - The Rev Jesse Jackson, Harlem, April 1

Terrorists won't come in dozens. The only reason for having sub-machine guns is that you can spray a whole area. We are going to have another situation where the Metropolitan Police are more dangerous

than the terrorists. - Mr Colin Greenwood, editor of Gun Review, April 3

May

It (British Telecom) is one of our major companies... the better it performs, the better for all of us, so we shall all be beneficiaries. - Mr Norman Tebbit, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, May 2

He (Muhammad Ali) has broken the cardinal rule of all magicians by exposing how the tricks are done; and we have decided to remove his name from our list of honorary members. - Mr Barry Gordon, secretary of the British Magical Society, May 4

The frame of mind of the man we want is that the Princess of Wales will give him a job of work to do when she has her next baby. It is up to him to do a good job. - John Jones, professor of poetry at Oxford University, after Poet Laureate Sir John Betjeman's death, May 23

A monstrous carbuncle on the face of a much-loved friend - Prince of Wales on the National Gallery extension, May 30

June

I can't think of a place on this planet I would rather claim as my roots than Ballyporeen, County Tipperary. - President Reagan, June 4

We shall make them chew iron lentils. - Jarnail Singh Bhindranwale, Sikh extremist speaking in the Golden Temple of Amritsar about Government troops, June 8

Nobody likes being foot-faulted, but what people accept it. Not McEnroe. He would rather keep repeating the fault and go through a big argument than go back a couple of inches. - Fred Perry, June 12

Daddy... ball... tractor... ant... who's that?... what's that? - Prince William's first words in public, June 13

He is apolitical in the extreme, a vegetarian, sentimental and a religious believer. - Moscow cultural journal on Michael Jackson, June 18

What I regret is having to come to places like this and deal with people like you. It's very embarrassing. - John McEwen at Press conference, June 20

It had to happen. - Times bing. I can't wait for boring old page three to be brightened up a bit. - Maurice Ross, letter, June 20

July

When somebody claims for their position a divine intervention I am always very cautious and think that people should be very cautious about such claims. - Dr Robert Runcie, Archbishop of Canterbury, on the York Minister fire, July 10

More than anything I would have liked to continue working in Russia. I am a Russian artist. My films are about Russia. But sometimes it may be necessary



In church on Sunday morning, it was a lovely morning - we have not had many lovely days - and the sun was just coming through the stained glass windows and falling on some flowers right across the church, and it just occurred to me that this was the day I was not meant to see

Margaret Thatcher, October 16



PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION

I never really warmed up to TV, and it never really warmed up to me

Walter Mondale, November 8



I would understand better this type of high-tech approach if you demolished the whole of Trafalgar Square, but what is proposed is like a monstrous carbuncle on the face of a much-loved friend

Prince of Wales on the National Gallery extension, May 30



TRAGIC PROPHECY

Every drop of my blood I am sure will contribute to the growth of this nation and make it strong and dynamic

Indira Gandhi, October 30



There has not been the quality in our bowling over the last two or three years. We may miss Gooch and Boycott, but we miss Lever, Old and Hendrick, guys you knew would run up to bowl and put the ball in the right place

Bob Willis, New Zealand, February 8

to see Russia from the outside - Film director Andrei Tarkovsky, July 11

August

Without women we stood in space on one leg only. - Colonel Vladimir Dzanibekov on the first walk in space by a woman, August 11

I think it's amazing. I've been here only three days and I actually sold him the paper that won £1 million. It's incredible. - Jim Stock, newscaster, August 24 on having sold a copy of The Sun

Praise the Lord - John DeLorean to his wife on his acquittal, August 17

My fellow Americans, I am pleased to tell you we have signed legislation that would outlaw Russia forever. We begin bombing in five minutes. - President Reagan, joking in a microphone test during the presidential election campaign, August 14

September

Then there is the oddness of the initiation ceremony itself with its strange rites which smack of immaturity, being reminiscent of the secret societies of boyhood. - Albert Langham, deputy commissioner of the Metropolitan Police, in an attack on Freemasonry, September 6

Si - Salvador Dali agreeing to a potentially life-saving operation after two years of deterioration following the death of his wife, September 7

Like getting into a bleeding competition with a blood bank. - Richard Branson, head of Virgin Atlantic, on competing with British Airways, September 20

There must be no victory because the miners must not be defeated. - Rt Rev David Jenkins, Bishop of Durham, September 20

For once we agree with David Jenkins - The Church of

England Newspaper, September 24

Exit according to rule, first leg and then head. Remove high heels and synthetic stockings before evacuation: open the door, take out the recovery line and throw it away. - Romanian airlines emergency instructions, quoted in Times letter, September 27

October

I lament that not sufficiently great part was ever contrived for him. - The Times obituary of Leonard Rossiter, October 15

In church on Sunday morning, it was a lovely morning - we have not had many lovely days - and the sun was just coming through the stained glass windows and falling on some flowers right across the church, and it just occurred to me that this was the day I was not meant to see. - Margaret Thatcher after Brighton bombing, October 16

In an operation of this kind one would not go for a Proust or a Joyce - not that I would know about that, never having read either. - Prof Richard Cobb, chairman of the Judges, Booker prize, October 18

Every drop of my blood I am sure will contribute to the growth of this nation and make it strong and dynamic. - Indira Gandhi, October 30

November

I never really warmed up to TV, and it never really warmed up to me. - Walter Mondale, November 8

Read carefully: This is not a joke... this conjunction has been adulterated. Animal Liberation Front leaflet in Mars bars, November 17

December

Mothers didn't know their

children had died, children didn't know their mothers had died, men didn't know their families had died. - Ahmed Khan on the Bhopal disaster, December 6

The BBC have Robin Day. Esther Rantzen, the Two Ronnies and me. What does the other side have? A lot of old BBC people who are not working as well as they did at the BBC. - Terry Wogan, December 13

I am informed that the intruders were not after money, not after nuclear information, but were checking to see if there were any Belgrano-related documents of Commander Green in the home of his aunt - Labour MP Tam Dalyell, alleging in the House of Commons that a 78-year-old woman, Miss Hilda Murrell, the aunt of a former naval commander with a key intelligence role during the Falklands conflict, had died after a violent encounter with British intelligence officers whom she discovered searching her home, December 20

"Doctors have done an awful lot of damage to families and the health of young girls. I just hope the British Medical Association will now work with parents to look after their children properly, rather than work against them." - Mrs Victoria Gillick, speaking after the Court of Appeal had barred doctors from prescribing contraceptives to girls under 16 without their parents' consent, December 20



The Zola saga

I can only express grave disquiet at the indecent haste with which the Home Office has processed this girl's application compared with normal policy which means a wait of a year to two years for most people. I believe the action has undermined the Home Office's integrity, and that of the ministers involved. - Mr Denis Howell, former Labour Minister for Sport, April 8

People should remember that I chose to come here. I'm an athlete and Britain is a great country for running in. I'll be very proud if I can run for Britain. I'm pleased that Mrs Thatcher has defended me, but really I'm not a politician, I'm just a girl who runs. When you're 17 and trying to train to be world class, believe me, that's enough to think about. - Zola Budd, April 26

ZOLA BUDD IN FINAL SHOCK - Barefoot runner disqualified after Mary Decker crashes - Daily Mail front page banner headlines, August 11

GCHQ becomes an open secret

The Government's action in respect of GCHQ was taken solely in the interests of national security, and because of the vital importance of protecting GCHQ from any recurrence of the industrial disruption suffered as a result of external union pressures between 1979 and 1981. - Mr Tom King, Employment Secretary, June 3

It is time that the smokescreen of national security settling over the GCHQ affair is dispelled once and for all. The motive behind the union ban was political expediency. - Mr Jeremy Windust, letter to The Times, August 27

GCHQ will endeavour to find alternative posts within the Civil Service for those who do not wish to remain there under the new conditions. There may be some for whom suitable positions cannot be found. They will be offered premature retirement on redundancy terms. All this will take some time, and the question of dismissals does not arise at this stage. - Mr Barney Hayhoe, Minister for the Civil Service, House of Commons, November 26

It is a ridiculous situation. They are so short they have extended the retirement age, and at the same time they propose getting rid of some of their best people. - Mr David McMillan, radio operator, December 9

A mine of disinformation

We are fighting for this country, and we are telling this country we will not be bought off by your filthy money. We will keep our jobs and our dignity. - Mr Mick McGahey, NUM vice-president, January 17

We will cope for as long as it takes. - Mr David Hall, Chief Constable of Humberside, March 17

For more than 70 years trade unions have been immune from legal action. Now, if they disobey, they are liable to fines and damages, and to having their assets sequestered. This has made them concentrate their minds wonderfully. - Lord Denning, former Master of the Rolls, March 20

Is it true that if I just go to Mansfield, I will be arrested? Aye. - Dialogue between would-be picket and a police officer, March 29

The workers see and know that businessmen, stockbrokers and the big Press proprietors easily spend more on a bottle of wine than an old age pensioner gets to live on for a week. Figuratively speaking this is the barrel of social gunpowder which has been exploded by the miners' anger. - Arthur Scargill, NUM president, in Trud, the Soviet Union trade union daily, April 3

In 34 years I have never seen anything like it. We have brother against brother, father against son, man against wife.



I can tell you that the CEEB in conjunction with the Government is preparing a presentation to Parliament of emergency measures for power cuts on a rota basis in August and September

Arthur Scargill



If I see any sign of intelligent bargaining on his part I will respond. I have not seen any so far. I have not heard anything to negotiate about

Ian MacGregor

This is happening not just in Nottinghamshire, but throughout a great deal of the British coalfield. - Mr Ray Chudburn, president of Nottingham area NUM, April 5

Sir, Dockers in Scotland blacked out (headline, April 5). Another Government employment scheme - and who supplies the polish? - M Clark, in a letter The Times, April 10

It'll all come back. I've drained all my capital, but we'll recover. The beauty of the miner is that when he's got it, he spends it. - Mr Alan Price, manager of the

village furniture shop in Rasington, Yorkshire, June 1

Asked in her end-of-term exam to name "a man who digs underground for coal," one of my class of eight-year-olds wrote: "a picket". - Barbara M Elgar, of Cambridge, letter to The Times, June 28

I have talked myself to a standstill. - NCB chairman Mr Ian MacGregor, August 12

Scab bastards! - Mrs Anne Scargill at Silverdale Colliery, Nottinghamshire, according to a police inspector at Mansfield Court, October 22

The ship that refused to sink

He (Mr Cecil Parkinson) let the cat out of the bag on Panorama by revealing that he knew about President Beland's peace plans with the clear implication that Mrs Thatcher is lying. - Mr Tam Dalyell, Labour MP for Linlithgow, House of Commons, May 3

Order, order. Mr Dalyell will have to withdraw that word. - Mr Speaker

I repeat absolutely categorically the charge for which I was suspended from the House of Commons: that the Government was lying to the House. These documents (allegedly showing

that the Government intended to withhold information about the sinking show that there was a cover-up. - Tam Dalyell, August 18

I am sorry that during the cut and thrust of a lively professional argument about television election coverage I disclosed the gist of what Mr Michael Foot had said privately to me some months ago about the sinking of the Belgrano. I am writing to Mr Foot to apologize for this disclosure and to explain it was only made in the heat of the moment in answer to a challenge from Mr Tam Dalyell. - Sir Robin Day, August 31

Warmest congratulations and admiration from Faber & Faber to

TED HUGHES

on his appointment as Poet Laureate

THE HAWK IN THE RAIN
LUPERCAL
WODWO
CROW

SELECTED POEMS 1957-81

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CAVE BIRDS
MOORTOWN
REMAINS OF ELMET
RIVER

SEASON SONGS

UNDER THE NORTH STAR

MEET MY FOLKS!

THE EARTH OWL

NESSIE THE MANNERLESS MONSTER

THE IRON MAN

THE COMING OF THE KINGS

HOW THE WHALE BECAME

WHAT IS THE TRUTH?

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GOODWILL DIARY

Snowed under

Greenland: Father Christmas (c/o Post Office 3910, Sondre Stronfjord) has been inundated this year. Usually about 7,000 children write to him and receive a gift in return. This year that number has soared to 12,000, largely due to an avalanche of identical letters from Japanese schoolchildren. This threatens the old man's tight £15,000 budget; it also means he can no longer get by with sending letters of greetings in English, Dutch, German and Eskimo.

Meanwhile there is little goodwill between the usually peaceable Nordic countries over rival claims to be Santa's official residence. Years ago the Finns thought of building a "Christmasland" to boost the economy, but waited so long that the Swedes stole the idea and built it on Mt. Gösundberg. The enraged Finns swiftly declared Lapland Christmas Province, arguing that Mt. Korbaunturi is Father Christmas's acknowledged home. The Danes countered that his mail address is indisputably in Denmark, and the Norwegians then claimed to have a Christmas Valley. The war of words still continues - between advertisers, tourist boards, national airlines and anyone else who stands to benefit from tourist inclusions.

● Los Angeles: Guards at California's maximum security Folsom jail were not pleased to receive a telephone call from an acquaintance who said he would be enjoying Christmas and looking forward to a delightful New Year. The caller was Stephen Wilson, a lifer who escaped from the jail a few months back.

The real spirit

Santiago: Besieged by unrest and poverty, middle-class Chileans have turned their backs on the usual turkey and tinsel. After appeals from Archbishop Fresno, many families have decided to give toys to needy children rather than relatives, and last year's ostentatious Christmas trees have given way to simple nativity scenes.

Ferraro's plum

New York: A welcome Christmas present for Geraldine Ferraro: Bantam Books, beating off competition from a dozen other publishers, are to pay upwards of \$850,000 for her memoirs of her election campaign as Walter Mondale's running mate.

Tall story

Moscow: The festive black humour among Muscovites concerns a meeting between Chernomir, Reagan and Thatcher to review the year. They began arguing about who is the most popular, and Chernomir suggests they order their bodyguards to jump from the 15th storey window to prove their love and loyalty. Reagan and Thatcher's bodyguards refuse, saying they have families to think of. The Russian jumps, lands in a tree and is brought back for a reviving vodka. Why did he do it? "Because I too have a family to think of," he replies.

Reagan's gift

Costa Rica: Police celebrated Christmas by tear-gassing shoppers on San Jose's crowded Avenida Central. Store owners had complained that the traditional seasonal street vendors were interfering with their business. When the vendors refused to move, stones were thrown at shop windows, the police fired tear gas and then charged down the avenue wielding batons, sending 30 people to hospital. The police equipment was provided by the United States - for use on the Nicaraguan border.

Day of rest

Peking: Christmas is far from drab in the Peoples' Republic. There will be plenty of dancing - the Chinese love to walk and dance. To earn foreign currency, Peking discotheques will stay open late for westerners, and restaurants will serve traditional Christmas fare - at a price. Foreign correspondents have been let off a possible Christmas Day press briefing on the visit of a Soviet dignitary, and last week the Peking mayor even threw a party for them. Merry Christmas and a happy New Year, he wished them, and could they please publicize China's need for foreign investment?

PHS

Barry Fantoni

FOREIGN



"Would you gift-wrap a dollar?"

Getting away from it all?

Russell Hoban (left),

The Times invited

novelist, artist and children's

author, to make a seasonal offering with a difference

Moongoer's Christmas

Moongoer had flown a space probe through the Great Red Spot of Jupiter, on microleads he had tracked subatomic particles through the vast rings of the megacelerators; in Spectrum Mode he had lived in Farthest Blue and Primal Yellow; in Kelvin he had done his 3-degree background; he had qualified in Proustian, Retrieve and Ernstlook and Hubble. He was equally capable of perception and travel in velocities or vibrations, in parables or megahertz; he was cleared for all frequencies but he had never been able to get himself tuned in to Christmas.

In October he began to pick up surges of interference; by November he had difficulty with both vertical and horizontal hold; and in December he suffered from blurred vision, loss of hearing, nausea, and heavy congestion in his random access. Every morning when he switched on his mind bubble it said: ATTENTION ALL SECTORS: THIS MANY SHOPPING DAYS LEFT. GO BUY THINGS. Then it fed Christmas cards into his head.

Moongoer went into PERSONAL MODE, CONFIDENTIAL. WHAT'S ON YOUR MIND?

HARK, THE HERALD ANGELS SING, input Moongoer. WHERE IS THERE NO CHRISTMAS?

ILLEGAL QUESTION, said the display. IF YOU ASK AGAIN I'LL REPORT YOU.

SORRY, SYNTAX ERROR, input Moongoer.

The Kraken, Ultimate Deep.

"I wonder if there's anyone else who feels the way I do," said Moongoer. He went into DEEP SCAN and specified TOTAL FUNK.

The display showed: THE KRAKEN, ULTIMATE DEEP, and gave the coordinates.

Moongoer called for VIBE SCAN, ULTIMATE DEEP. The reading was MEGATEROR, BEYOND SCALE 10.

"I don't think I want to go there," said Moongoer.

ATTENTION ALL SECTORS, said the display: SHOPPING CENTRES NOW OPEN 24 HOURS. GO BUY THINGS. ACTIVE SURVEILLANCE ALL SECTORS, NON-BUYERS RISK HEAVY DEMERITS.

"I'll go in megahertz," said Moongoer. "I can always tune myself out of there if it gets too heavy."

Nexo Vollma

Moongoer went down in megahertz. He went down in a diminishing frequency to where the great head of the Kraken sat among its miles of writhing tentacles in the blackness of the ultimate deep. Moongoer smelled the blackness and the terror of the Kraken; he heard the oscillations of the Kraken's terror widening in circles through the deeps. He tuned his vision to ultra-spectrum and saw the Kraken's monstrous bulk that heaved and shuddered; he saw the Kraken's staring eyes.

"What is your terror?" said Moongoer to the Kraken. "Speak!"

When the Kraken spoke there were no words at first, only the surging oscillations that were the signal of its terror.

"I say again: what is your terror?" said Moongoer, tuning in to the oscillations.

"BLERVIG," said the Kraken. "BLERVIG, BLONVOR, KRULJI."

"Yes," said Moongoer. "I red you now: year on year the centuries pressed down upon you."

"KRULJI MERZA TSUNG TSUNG TSUNG," said the Kraken.

"And always the terror," said Moongoer. "Of what?"

"NEXO VOLLMA," said the Kraken.

"The plughole of the universe," said Moongoer. "What do you mean?"

"I'M SITTING ON IT," said the Kraken.

"O my God!" said Moongoer.

"THROUGH ALL THE LONG, THROUGH ALL THE PONDEROUS CENTURIES PRESSING DOWN UPON ME I HAVE LIVED IN TERROR," said the Kraken.

"I HAVE BEEN AFRAID THAT I

"Would move," said Moongoer.

"WOULD MOVE," said the Kraken. "SOMETIMES THE URGE HAS BEEN SO... SO VERVAKRUGNIS."

"Overwhelming," said Moongoer.

"THAT I'VE THOUGHT I COULDN'T HOLD ON ANY LONGER," said the Kraken.

The Smell of Roasting Chestnuts

"But how do you come to be sitting on the plughole?" said Moongoer.

"Where do you come from?"

"I EVOLVED," said the Kraken.

"From what?" said Moongoer.

"What was stopping up the plughole before you arrived?" said Moongoer.

"I DON'T KNOW," said the Kraken. "THERE'S NEVER BEEN ANYONE I COULD ASK. WHAT'S IT LIKE UP THERE NOW? WHAT'S IT LIKE WHERE YOU'VE COME FROM?"

"Much the same as always," said Moongoer. "They've turned on the lights in Regent Street and the shops are bright in the winter dusk. The pinky-purple sky is sharp and cold and the dark comes quickly. The river is black and shining under the lamps, under the winter moon, under the lamplit bridges. The roast-chestnut vendors are in the streets with their carts and their braziers, the glow of embers in the winter evening and the smell of roasting chestnuts call up dark woods, black winter trees, brown leaves on the trackways under the lamps of the town. People hurry to the bright windows and the lights, people hurry home through dark tunnels to their lighted windows waiting."

"THE SMELL OF ROASTING CHESTNUTS AND THE LOOK OF LIGHTED WINDOWS IN THE WINTER EVENING," said the Kraken. "I AM SO MOVED BY THAT!"

"No, no!" said Moongoer. "You mustn't be moved! Hold on!"

"LET SOMEONE ELSE HOLD ON!" roared the Kraken, heaving up its monstrous bulk against the pressure of the deeps.

The Persistence of Ideas

There was a rushing and a roaring in Moongoer's ears, he had no time to tune out. Through the plughole went stars and planets, galaxies, nebulae, red shifts, background radiation, world civilization, Regent Street, roast-chestnut vendors, the Kraken and Moongoer into a finity of possibility. In this finity of possibility there persisted the ideas of all that had come through the plughole but the elements of flame and the elements of fire were in no particular order.

The idea of Moongoer and

the idea of the Kraken has lost their separateness and become one mingled idea of a Kroonken sort.

In the wild churning of the finity of possibility vast charges of electricity arced from point to point, wherever the cusps of ideas formed polarities. In clouds of flame and dancing lightnings another universe came together and Kroonken found a world steaming, hissing and cracking around it as it cooled.

Kroonken's Youth and Early Lhood

Kroonken was of course nothing as advanced as either Moongoer or the Kraken had been: it was a single-celled organism of no particular sex to whom space probes and megahertz were as unknown as its own name, and although it had arisen from the highly complex ideas of Moongoer and the Kraken it had no idea of its own nor any thought whatever: it had only an urge to keep moving.

Time Kroonken developed identity and corporeal complexity and took its place in blensvok like everyone else. It was educated at the Krung of Krlisma and read Advanced Huzik and Modern Flimsa Na Vdrkmo at the Vennul Nurzampnia under such huzmeis as Vlonksmar Nuz and Blansma Nuz. Kroonken made a brilliant showing in the Nurzampnia Frilzig in its final year and it was generally acknowledged that the ninzig lay before it. Up to that point it had made no sexual differentiation and ordinarily semstik hoog with a remsa vemsa on the Nurzampnia equivalent of Saturday night.

Kroonken and Delphine

One zim Kroonken was cruising the Hergo Murnus when Delphine slept past. One glozno and Kroonken fremzik its nung. "Rorvi!" it said. "I'd nismo vonvor huzik huzik huzik with her!"

"Rorvi yourself," said Delphine with a little ziza. She was cruising at about 30 dizzinis and the blarglight through the murnus played on her sleek mulvas.

Kroonken had never felt such nungva, such rulsma. With no hesitation whatever it differentiated on the spot and in the full trilsma of his plesmok followed Delphine into the further depths of the Hergo Murnus.

Kroonken Learns a New Word

Kroonken had never been so happy. He felt that from now on everything was going to be zeenzy nzing.

"Now we can get a murkage," said Delphine after they had sung the pair-song.

"What's that?" said Kroonken.

"You know, silly," said Delphine. "It's what happens when you make nuzmiz. You'll like it."

"You mean huzik huzik huzik?" said Kroonken.

"No," said Delphine. "I mean murkage."

Everybody Does It

"Let's play bonkers," said one of the nuzmiz to another. "You overdrift me then I'll overdrift you."

"I don't want to hear that sort of filth around this murkage," said Kroonken to the nuzmiz.



"It's not filth," said the nuzmiz. "Our hurnel says everybody does it and that's how you get civilization."

"What's civilization?" said Kroonken.

"It's what you get when you keep overdrifting," said the nuzmiz.

"Well does your luluu stop working or do you break out in nugs or what?" said Kroonken.

"Your luluu stops working and you break out in nugs and white holes," said the nuzmiz. "Then the Mini-Star of Deafness brings in a big deafness budgie and the ploy men come."

"What are ploy men?" said Kroonken.

"They read," said the nuzmiz.

"What do they read?" said Kroonken.

"They read undance," said the nuzmiz.

"In my time there was dancing," said Kroonken.

"Well, you're old, aren't you," said the nuzmiz.

An Awful Lot of Dropping To Do

Old thought Kroonken. I suppose I am. Only a little while ago the nuzing lay before me but now everything seems to have gone by so quickly. He found himself almost remembering something that kept slipping away.

"Let's go," said Delphine. "We've got an awful lot of dropping to do and only one zim left till Orifice Parity."

"It seems only yesterday we had Orifice Parity," said Kroonken.

"It wasn't yesterday," said Delphine. "It's been a whole ruku of zims and now it's coming round again just as it always has done ever since this ninzig first steamed and hissed and cracked and cooled and got itself going."

Orifice Parity

It was pretty much the same as always: everybody got galfit and they stood around Orifice and threw things into it until they achieved Parity.

"Well, that's it for another ruku," said Kroonken. "His head felt huge and heavy."

Nexo Vollma Again

Kroonken's huge and heavy head overbalanced him and down he went headfirst into the deeps. Down, down, down he went, sucked down to the ultimate deep in a rushing and a roaring that destroyed all memory of who he was and everything that had happened up to that moment.

This is it, he said to himself: NEXO VOLLMA! The black void of the plughole of the universe was before him; he flung out his blivgos to keep from going through it and there he was, halfway in and halfway out.

Blervig Blonvor, Krulji

Znergva, thought Kroonken, how ruzmiz this seems. It's almost as if I've been here before. The main thing of course is not to move: I've got to keep still or RRNDU! No more ninzig.

Kroonken kept quite still. More and more he thought about what would huzik if he were to move and more and more he feared that he would move.

Kroonken's fear grew larger and his fears over the centuries he grew ponderous and his fear became surging oscillations of terror that widened in circles through the deeps. He pondered so heavily that he became more dead than anything else and his mind as it stretched out into the blackness grew long and writhing tentacles.

BLERVIG, he thought. BLERVIG BLONVOR, KRULJI, KRULJI MERZA TSUNG TSUNG TSUNG. THE URGE TO MOVE HAS BECOME SO VERVAKRUGNIS THAT I DON'T KNOW WHETHER I CAN HOLD ON MUCH LONGER.

There are other possibilities; since he might even believe that Mrs Thatcher herself put the bomb in the Grand Hotel to gain sympathy for her party, he could well have thought it unseemly to give ever the most distant approval to the fact that her wicked plan had achieved its object. Nor should we entirely ignore the part that ordinary stupidity plays; Mr Heffer may well have failed to recognize Mr Wakeham, thinking he was a working miner, injured by Mr Scargill's heavy-duty introduced into the House for shock purposes by the energy secretary. But speculation could continue almost indefinitely without hitting upon an explanation that would leave Mr Heffer in the clear, or indeed anywhere but in the mire.

One of the problems in estimating the true character and worth of Heffer is that he is fat. There is a very deeply rooted belief in this country that fat men are invariably genial souls, always handy with a jest and brimming over with the beer of human kindness. The tradition presumably stems from

Kroonken Conkers His Tsung Tsung Tsung

IF ONLY I COULD CONKER MY TSUNG TSUNG TSUNG, thought Kroonken, then he noticed how he had spoken that thought in his mind. "CONKER," he said. "WHY DID I SAY CONKER?" As he said that there came to him the ghost of the memory of the smell of roasting chestnuts.

"THE SMELL OF ROASTING CHESTNUTS," said Kroonken. "THE LOOK OF LIGHTED WINDOWS IN THE WINTER EVENING!"

He was so moved by that thought that a little space opened between him and the plughole. With a roaring and a rushing the pressure of the deeps forced him through it into the cold.

"I'll have some chestnuts," he said to the vendor.

"How's it going, Newgoer?" said the huge fellow as he filled the bag and took the money.

"Not too badly, Krakenew," said Newgoer. "Staying in town over the holidays?"

"Oh, yes," said Krakenew. "You can say what you like, there's no place like home."

"There isn't really, is there," said Newgoer. "Happy Christmas to you."

"And to you," said Krakenew. "Mind how you go."

"I shall," said Newgoer. "You too."

"No fear," said Krakenew.

Bernard Levin

What does this man stand for?

This being the traditional time for goodwill and charitable thoughts, when ancient enmities are laid aside, however briefly, and warring factions embrace beneath the paper-chains, let me see whether I can spoil Mr Eric Heffer's Christmas for him.

Why, it may be asked, should I wish to do so unkind and unseasonable a thing? I shall tell you.

Mr John Wakeham, the Government Chief Whip who was both bereaved and horribly injured by the Brighton "bomb" - the other day returned to the House of Commons for the first time since that murderous night. There was, as you may readily imagine, a widespread demonstration of welcome and encouragement for Mr Wakeham, who entered on crutches (both his legs were crushed beneath the rubble, and at one time it was feared that they would both have to be amputated); in the comments by his fellow-Members which followed, Mr Roy Hattersley rose handsomely to the occasion, saying that Mr Wakeham's appearance in the House "personified the triumph of democracy over terrorism", and before that, as Mr Wakeham hobbled into the Chamber, the entire Commons rose to their feet, doubtless thankful that they had feet to rise to.

Well, almost the entire Commons. Mr Heffer's vast and unshapely bulk remained on the bench, along with Messrs Skinner and Canavan. He has so far offered no explanation of his unwillingness to take part in the House's human gesture and, as Jeeves said, "one hesitates to offer a conjecture".

After all, it can hardly be that he is sorry that Mr Wakeham survived the bomb which killed his wife and wished to make this clear by refusing to join his fellow-Members' salute to courage amid tragedy. Nor is it likely that he thinks the IRA are suffering from nothing worse than a slight excess of idealism in the pursuit of their aims; and surely he would not insist that you can't make an omelette without breaking eggs.

I suppose he might so fiercely deprecate any show of what he would probably call bourgeois sentimentality that he remained seated as a rebuke to those MPs who had succumbed to it; if so, that is the saddest aspect of the matter; for to feel an instinctive sympathy and then suppress it on ideological (or any other) grounds is, very literally, an inhuman act, and if (as I can scarcely believe) he did not even experience the instinct to start with, that suggests a truly alarming lack of humanity.

There are other possibilities; since he might even believe that Mrs Thatcher herself put the bomb in the Grand Hotel to gain sympathy for her party, he could well have thought it unseemly to give ever the most distant approval to the fact that her wicked plan had achieved its object. Nor should we entirely ignore the part that ordinary stupidity plays; Mr Heffer may well have failed to recognize Mr Wakeham, thinking he was a working miner, injured by Mr Scargill's heavy-duty introduced into the House for shock purposes by the energy secretary. But speculation could continue almost indefinitely without hitting upon an explanation that would leave Mr Heffer in the clear, or indeed anywhere but in the mire.

One of the problems in estimating the true character and worth of Heffer is that he is fat. There is a very deeply rooted belief in this country that fat men are invariably genial souls, always handy with a jest and brimming over with the beer of human kindness. The tradition presumably stems from

Falstaff, but there is no doubt that it is very often soundly based; anyone who knows Mr Godfrey Smith, for instance, will recognize the very essence of the man whose vast bulk covers a heart of gold.

Heffer has profited from this stereotype. "Good old Eric", for all his political extremism, his unwavering resistance to his party's attempts to rid itself of the fascist left, his criticism of the Communist Party for its "efforts to water the socialist content" of their policy, his "dedication" to "destroying capitalist society" is none the less widely regarded as a jovial figure - an asset, to be sure, not quite up to the responsibility of being sent to the corner shop for a packet of Liquorice Allsorts; but in all essentials one who would not hurt a fly.

And maybe he wouldn't, with his own hands; that is a recognizable type, fat or thin. For since none of my fantasy reasons for Heffer's odious little gesture is the real one, I can only deduce that he remained seated because he thinks he is engaged in something called "the class struggle", that Mr Wakeham is on the other side of that fight and that to behave towards an enemy as any human being would instinctively do is to display unpardonable weakness in the prosecution of the just war. So instead of behaving as a human being would, he behaved as an insensate beast would. Naturally, he would not see it that way. Politics has taken on a harder aspect of recent years, and there are those (though I have never felt that Heffer was one) who welcome this development.

I doubt if Mr Wakeham noticed, or minded very much if he did; a man who has been through what he has just endured is unlikely to have enough emotional energy to spare for spotting boorishness, even when it is boorishness taken to such extreme lengths. I doubt, for that matter, if Heffer's immense selfishness, exceptional even among politicians, will be in any way lessened by my words today. Indeed, I hardly know why I write them.

Except, perhaps, that at a time of goodwill it may be necessary to remind ourselves that there has of late years crept into the mainstream of politics an attitude which previously did not exist there, being confined to a small, easily isolated and insignificant area of the outer reaches of our public life. It is based on the belief - not necessarily expressed, but acted upon - that bigotry and intolerance are commendable, that political opponents are only semi-human and should be treated as such, that the instinct towards benevolence is corrupting and should be suppressed. Heffer, for all his fraudulent bonhomie, appears to be so imbued with this attitude that he even refused to a political opponent, widowed and disabled, the gesture of sympathy his colleagues extended. I wish Mr Wakeham such consolation as Christmas can bring him, and a speedy return to full health.

NUJ members

This is a second reminder that voting for editor of the union's paper, *The Journalist*, is now going forward. Those who wish to ensure that it stays in hands that will keep it representative of the union's members as a whole, and free of extremist politics, should use their single transferable vote by putting 1 against the name of Steve Paterson, 2 against that of David Turner, and no figure against either of the other candidates. Ballot papers must be returned by January 14.

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Paul Jennings

Come ladies fill the cash-flow till

"Wassail", as Macaulay's schoolboy would have known, comes from the Middle English *wases hail*, "be in good health." In the OUP *Carols for Chorus* (the first volume, the one with green covers) there are only three entirely uninspiring ones, concerned with food and drink; the Figgys Fudding one, the Yorkshire *We've been awhile a-wandering* ("bring us out some mouldy cheese and some of your Christmas loaf") and the Gloucestershire *Wassail* ("And here is to Dobbin and to his right eye...") Paul Jennings offers a wassail to suit the present times.

A sale, a sale all over the town
When Christmas is over we mark prices down
A very jolly season always is Christmas, you see,
'Cause it lasts from September to January.

So here is to Christmas, that magical week
From sales talk we're hoarse until we can't speak
The reason for this, we are sure you will see
Is the weeks from September to January.

Now here's to the public who come in to buy
If we haven't skinned them we've had a good try
And greater and greater the pressure will be
As we go from September to January.

And here's to the order-books dog-eared and torn
For razors and records of folk-songs forlorn
And bath saks and biscuits and lingerie
In the weeks from September to January.

And here's to the columns of ads, with their tale
Of gifts that will make the Joneses turn pale,
Gifts for the mot'rist, for near and for dear
Gifts for the humdrum and gifts for the queer.

And here's to the filling of shops with good cheer
And huge model Santas that grin ear to ear
And a Happy New Year, if money there be
Not spent 'twixt September and January.

Come butter and fill us a bowl of the best
There's only two days when we may take rest
And right after Christmas the prices will fall
Of all the old stock that's not wanted at all.

So if you want sheets or a tily-white smock
Or lampshades or shoes or a nice shop-soiled cloak
Just queue up on sale day and add to the din
When we open the doors and they come pouring in.

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ard Levin
does this
stand for?



P.O. Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

THE TIMES MONDAY DECEMBER 24 1984

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THE NATIVITY

"At midnight, noon is born." - Taoist proverb.

Our lives are like the course of the sun. At the darkest moment there is the promise of daylight. In the morning we grow in strength until we reach the zenith. At the heat of high noon we begin the descent to midnight. For the noon day sun the darkness which lies ahead is no external enemy but its own internal guarantee of another noon to come. In mythology the darkness represented the sun's own inner longing for the eternal stillness of the night, for the false promise of a profound peace whose temptation had to be resisted. The continuity of coming, going and coming again meant the continuity of sacrifice in which the height and light of noon would, each time they were achieved, have to be forsaken for the future.

As a poet and a mystic it was easy for William Blake to see the world in a grain of sand "and eternity in an hour." But common to all religions and to their religious festivals is the need to convey a sense of eternity to ordinary people to bring ultimate things into the human dimension.

"Why do we live?" is best answered by life itself. We

should leave the bigger question to exist like a locked room in a part of our house, a familiar doorway which one passes each day along the passage. If we cling to nature and to those simple everyday things that everybody sees, we are living the answers to the big questions and helping to keep them in proportion to the life of each individual.

So it is with The Nativity. With every birth, a rebirth. Life is eternally renewed. There is the beauty of motherhood, not only in every birth but in what comes before and what lies after. In the Virgin, a motherhood to be as preparation for motherhood; in the mother the joy of administering to a child; in the older woman, later, the force and peace of a great remembering.

In every birth there is the beauty of childhood. Each of us has been a child, once. The children of today in their hopes and sadnesses, in their solitude, are the way we were as children. In their simplicity they live out life's big questions without ever asking them. They pass the door of that locked room in our house without ever rattling the door-knob.

In every birth there is another beginning. It reminds us that the beginning was God and since everything that happens to us in

this life is a beginning of something, life is always with us. The future arrives in many different guises transforming us long before we are aware of it. It happens. Just as the darkness gives way to light, so sickness is offset by the means by which a body discards foreign matter and renews itself.

The beauty and the joy of a birth and the joy of life itself should dispel the unusually intense fear of death which seems nowadays to have whole societies in its grip. A wasted life is a living death long before the clock actually strikes the hour. Fear of death is identical with not wanting to live. Both attitudes negate the possibility of life's completeness. They both negate the affirmation of life as an element in the natural order of things.

As individuals we all belong to this great continuum. The life stream that flows through a woman, from a mother to child and back again, rescues both of them from any sense of isolation and restores them to completeness as particles of time in the passing of generations. This is vividly illustrated at each and every birth, and never more so than at the time of The Nativity. For unto us for always, a child is born.

COMMERCE WITH THE COMRADES

During his visit to Britain last week Mr Mikhail Gorbachev scored undoubted personal successes. He has improved his reputation in the Politburo by confirming his ability to hold discussions with Western leaders without making any concessions. At the same time he and his wife presented a human face to the British public, more accustomed to an image of grey, sinister men lurking behind Kremlin walls. Mrs Thatcher said she liked him and could do business with him. One MP even found him "charismatic". He apparently won popularity in Britain, if not in Moscow, by playing truant while his colleagues laid a wreath at the tomb of Karl Marx.

However, although Mr Gorbachev can be pleasant when he wishes it does not necessarily follow that earlier impressions of the Soviet leadership are wrong. It makes no sense to disapprove of events in Afghanistan and Poland, or to condemn violation of human rights in the USSR, without holding in some way responsible the man regarded as the Kremlin No. 2. He himself told Party ideologists at a recent Moscow conference that they should judge people by their deeds, not their words. (It is a feature of one-party authoritarian states, where there is no freedom to debate fundamental political issues, that decent people are implicated in the most abominable actions: the pilot of the fighter which destroyed the Korean airliner appeared quite distraught, but

his commanding officer was later awarded a high medal).

Can there be progress in East-West relations now that the Soviet leaders are again prepared to talk? Can trade help to build bridges and break down barriers? It is certainly no bad thing when Britain supplies the USSR with spectacle lenses, razor blades and shoes. By all means let Russians see more clearly, be cleaner shaven and better shod, while reducing our unemployment and trade deficit. Further, Mr Gorbachev showed great interest in the ICI process which converts methanol to animal feed. The USSR is rich in natural gas, but cannot provide enough cattle fodder; why not help British industry and Soviet agriculture by selling such technology?

None the less, there is a negative side to trading with the USSR. It is significant that Mr Gorbachev made a point of showing his gratitude to the executives of the John Brown Engineering group for supplying turbines to the Trans-Siberian pipeline, and thus defying American efforts to impose sanctions.

Trade can build bridges with Moscow while simultaneously placing strains on relations with allies. The cheap credit offered to the USSR by Mr Harold Wilson in 1975 initiated great controversy but brought Britain no dramatic increase in trading profits. By 1980 when the agreement expired only £550 million of the £950 million credit had been used and Britain's

trade with the USSR continued to register a large deficit. Moscow deplored the West's use of economic sanctions, but repeatedly uses the prospects of large contracts as a carrot or whip to obtain political advantages by playing one country against another.

As technology becomes increasingly complex, it becomes even more difficult to determine what should be subject to embargo as contributing to the military strength of an adversary. The USSR has vast resources of raw materials; Britain has advanced technology and skilled labour. It is a tragedy that political factors stand in the way of greater co-operation to mutual benefit, but it is a tragedy not of our making.

Mr Gorbachev did not wish to discuss human rights. As a lawyer trained in a Stalinist school, he would argue that the law imposes a duty on citizens to accept the will of the regime rather than accept that the law should protect the individual from the arbitrary exercise of authority. But he must learn that real lasting trade agreements will be easier to achieve when the USSR is seen to observe its international obligations on humanitarian issues also. Before that, however, the Soviet Union has to re-establish the West's confidence in its good faith in honouring arms control agreements, since some of the most important of these, such as the 1972 anti-missile agreement, have been seriously violated for lack of proper verification.

NEW THINGS PASS AWAY

The English New Towns deserve a better fate than the precipitate asset-stripping that now seems in prospect for them. At the least they deserve a more public obituary. Without challenge or discussion, Mr Ian Gow has just announced that the development corporations will be wound up speedily, within five years. With barely a ripple on the surface of the parliamentary pool, the New Towns and Urban Development Corporations Bill has in the past month sailed through the Commons. This bill's few, short clauses are innocuous enough. Yet the bill - and the executive actions it encompasses - realises an ambition entertained by ministers since 1979 to be rid of these embarrassing hold-overs from the era of large-scale house-building on green fields, monuments of social engineering from the plans of Macmillan and Wilson.

Utopian, corporatist, yes, but the New Towns are not merely administrative entities. They are functioning local economies, mostly energetic and lively communities in which the state - the Government-appointed development corporations - plays a continuing role as developer and guarantor of prosperity. The state must eventually withdraw. That was always part of the plan. But the speed and financial consequences of that withdrawal

demand more consideration than the Government or its liquidator, the Commission for the New Towns, seems to have given.

From Aycliffe to Warrington, the New Towns cannot be assessed only on their balance sheets. There is a social accounting to be done. Lewis Silkin's hopes for a "new type of citizen" are now thought naive, but measure should be taken of New Town spirit, one index of which has been the enthusiasm of residents for buying their own homes. The development corporations, quangoes that they are, have in most cases impressively fulfilled their task of building, letting and boosting. Is that job finished? In Milton Keynes, also in Peterborough and Telford, the answer is no; Milton Keynes Development Corporation has work (performed at minimal net cost to the public purse because of the strength of its portfolio of assets) to last well into the 1990s. The corporations of the New Towns of the North East form a component of regional aid, seeking employment for and promoting Aycliffe, Washington and Peterlee: this is work that could be missed, for which local authorities are ill equipped.

Privatisation was built into the New Towns programme. In Stevenage in Harlow and in Crawley the corporations built towns, maturing assets were sold

and, lo and behold, the Treasury ends up with a net surplus. The same model cannot apply to later New Towns. The corporations of Telford and Northampton were required to spend more on "community assets". Worse, they were required to finance their development by the single channel of 60-year Government loans; the early years' deficits were jacked up to impossible levels by the requirement that they too be covered by further borrowing, denominated in the expensive money of the 1970s.

Like the Labour Government of Mr Callaghan, Conservative ministers have shown a deep-rooted indeterminateness over the English New Towns' debt (the Scottish New Towns have been paid for by direct grants, likewise the urban development corporations for London docks and Merseyside). The bill marks scant improvement; it cancels a portion of the outstanding debt and so perpetuates the unworkable financial framework for the New Towns. The bill turns the Commission for the New Towns into a predator, in existence only to liquidate. Before it goes any further, assurances are needed that the Government will have the patience to let the New Towns' assets mature and for the remaining towns to reach their optimal growth targets before the liquidators - the corporations - are abolished.

Attitudes to acid rain

From Mr Sidney Vines
Sir, Eighteen nations have signed an international agreement stating that they undertake to reduce their emissions of sulphur dioxide from power stations. The British (and American) governments are not among them, taking the attitude that the case is not proven and more research is needed.

It might be thought that the Germans, seeing their legendary forests dying, and being a rich nation, are showing a tendency to panic but the French are normally hard-headed and realistic, while the Russians certainly do not throw their troubles around for sentimental reasons.
What the 18 nations have in common is that they are all suffering from the effects of acid rain. The

British and Americans are major emitters of sulphur dioxide and only minor sufferers. If they are right that the case is "not proven" then the 18 are wrong.
Yours faithfully,
SIDNEY VINES,
1 Willow Close,
Laverstock,
Salisbury,
Wiltshire.
December 17.

Rip Van Winkle v. the Frog Prince

From Sir Geoffrey Chandler

Sir, The distinguished signatories of the open letter to the Prime Minister (feature, December 20) suffer from the Frog Prince fallacy: that is, from the belief that by concentrating on a single factor - unit labour costs - and on a simplistic explanation of what ails them, this country will hop, transformed, into a new era of higher productivity and lower unemployment.

But productivity derives from quality and design of product, from production planning, marketing, appropriate investment, training and motivation - all management responsibilities - as well as from adequate shopfloor and trade union response and restraint in pay claims.

Overmanning and therefore labour costs, as much a product of weak, acquiescent, and short-sighted management as of short-sighted trade unionism. Many skill shortages reflect inadequacy of training and of education, rather than geographical immobility. Even if all the measures advocated by your correspondents were adopted, there would remain a vast array of relevant factors untouched, without whose reform we shall continue the relative decline of the past one hundred years.

Moreover, it is clear that a few individual companies, in almost all sectors of industry, are able to match competition from anywhere in the world in excellence of process, product, and human relationships. They have never fitted superficial diagnoses of a "British disease" and the important questions to be asked are, how do they succeed and why are there not more like them?

The answer is a complex one, embracing some of the factors outlined in the open letter, and indeed the level and direction of public spending so dismissively rejected, but also many more of a more fundamental nature all the way from the world of education to the shop floor and office.

Until we recognise that Rip Van Winkle provides a better analogue for our situation, requiring reform at all points, we will fail to harness the national will necessary to tackle the most fundamental problem that we face today - the need to create, in an increasingly competitive world, sufficient national wealth to provide a higher quality of life and standard of living for the whole of our society.
Yours faithfully,
GEOFFREY CHANDLER,
57 Blackheath Park, SE3.
December 21.

VAT on publications

From Professor Lorraine Baric

Sir, The possible imposition of VAT on scholarly and educational publications has wide implications, many of which have already been discussed by your correspondents. May I draw attention to a more specific threat?

No other EEC countries have anthropological associations which are as strong and active as those in the UK. The USA is the only other country comparable to the UK in this respect, but in the USA there are many more universities, and some thousands of professional anthropologists, to help support the anthropological associations.

This institute receives virtually no grants from Government sources and survives financially because of its successful publishing programme; but our economy is somewhat fragile like that of most similar societies, and further VAT burden could be very damaging.

The same must be true of many other societies in whose field of interest Britain still has a high reputation abroad. For the relatively small benefit to the exchequer from taxing our publications, is it worth jeopardizing the contribution which these societies make both nationally and internationally?
Yours faithfully,
L. BARIC,
Treasurer,
Royal Anthropological Institute of Great Britain and Ireland,
56 Queen Anne Street, W1.
December 7.

Salisbury car park

From Dr Selby Whittingham

Sir, Last year this society had a very successful visit to Salisbury. About a coach-load of members came, but by train rather than by coach. Might I suggest that the solution to the problem of parking coaches in the Close there lies in attempting to get others to use the excellent train service rather than in making the existing situation worse?

In general, the problem created by coaches, which can be very useful to societies such as this one, but which are not always the best means of transport, might be alleviated by a tax on coaches and tourism and a subsidy for taxis, which create no parking problem and which could also contain the nuisance created by private cars.
Yours faithfully,
SELBY WHITTINGHAM,
Vice-Chairman,
The Turner Society,
BCM Box TURNER, WC1.
December 17.

Queen of tongues

From Dr A. W. F. Edwards

Sir, Dr Crook pleads (December 17) that Latin is needed so that we can follow English official documents prior to 1733. I, a scientist, might have listened to my teachers more carefully 40 years ago had they told me that today I would be trying to follow a paper published in Latin by the famous German mathematician Jacobi as recently as 1834.
Yours faithfully,
A. W. F. EDWARDS,
Gonville and Caius College,
Cambridge.
December 17.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Striking a balance on defence

From Dr Geoffrey Lee Williams

Sir, You are right to stress (leading article, December 17) that the Soviet objective in seeking to resume the arms-control dialogue is an attempt to frustrate the development of ballistic missile defence which, they fear, will give the Americans a strategic advantage. Thus the Soviets will seek early negotiations to prevent the US achieving a credible defence system which technology might make possible in the distant future. But profound difficulties lie ahead, which makes it most unlikely that an early agreement which "could ultimately form part of a defence technology package of arms-control measures" will be negotiated.

In its present form, arms control has fallen into serious disrepute. This in part results from the central fallacy of the existing approach to arms control, which supposes that the sources of military instability can be removed by negotiated agreement. Yet it is obvious that, after three decades of talks, the two superpowers are still locked into an unbreakable arms race.

The plain fact is that asymmetries in force structures and military doctrines have precluded any US-Soviet consensus on the meaning of "strategic stability". Thus what seems stabilizing to one side often appears destabilizing to the other.

The issue of US ICBM (intercontinental ballistic missile) vulnerability during the SALT II talks is a case in point. From the Soviet perspective this development was of a stabilizing nature; thus they had no reason to accept an American proposal to restructure the situation. The resulting SALT II agreement merely ratified the Soviet advantage.

The 1983 INF (intermediate nuclear forces) walkout over the deployment of Pershing II and cruise missiles underscores the point that without some semblance of doctrinal convergence on what constitutes "strategic stability" arms-control negotiations may be irrelevant to the entire issue.

Indeed the evidence strikingly confirms that the US-Soviet strategic and theatre balances have shown a steady decline over the years, despite ineffective arms talks. Thus quantitative arms-limitation negotiations have been largely ineffective, but with this major and relevant reservation. The ABM

(anti-ballistic missile) treaty only simplified Soviet nuclear attack problems and enabled them to develop confidence in their ability to destroy the US land-based missile force. President Reagan's interest in strategic defence therefore threatens to remove this advantage.

That America's erstwhile allies should seek to head off interest in strategic defence remains in these circumstances either an error of judgement or a failure to understand the strategic analysis behind President Reagan's original strategic defence initiative, as explained by him in March 1983.

Yours sincerely,
GEOFFREY LEE WILLIAMS,
University of Surrey,
Department of Linguistics and International Studies,
Guildford,
Surrey.
December 18.

From Mr Hugh Hanning

Sir, Lord Kennet (feature, December 19) is right to take on the "expert" advocates of star wars on their own ground. The technical level of their arguments is as insane as that of the American humorist, Will Rogers, in World War I. When asked how to deal with the German U-boat menace, he is reputed to have replied: "Drain the Atlantic." Pressed to explain how this might be done, he declared immortally: "We have technicians, don't we?"

This is precisely the logic of the star wars lobby. For even if it were possible to intercept all Soviet missiles in space, Russia would still be able to destroy America from submarines off the Atlantic coast. There is no defence against missiles coming through the atmosphere and not even Dr Teller pretends that there is the faintest prospect of one.

Eventually, when they begin to notice this rather awkward hole in their argument, the star wars brigade may try to convince us that such a defence is possible. Much the best way would be to persuade the President to drain the Atlantic. That should not be too difficult. We have technicians, don't we?

Yours etc,
HUGH MANNING,
UK Representative,
International Peace Academy Inc,
18 Montpelier Row, SE3.
December 19.

Mr Gorbachev's visit

From Group Captain P. W. Johnson

Sir, Your leading article of December 17, quoting the Foreign Secretary's observation that US/Soviet negotiations will have to last from here to eternity, conveys an unpleasant overtone that eternity may be closer than we think.

If Mr Gorbachev's visit has done nothing else, it has at least underlined the futility of lesser members of the conflicting alliances trying to interfere in the vital concerns of the superpowers.

Britain has no reason any more to place herself in the direct line of the

US/Soviet confrontation. She would do the world and mankind a better service by distancing herself from the potential conflict rather than continuing to believe that there is any effective role she can play.

Ministers and would-be ministers alike delude themselves and the public by pretending that their well-meant attempts at intervention have the slightest effect on either side.
Yours faithfully,
P. W. JOHNSON,
Middle Corner Cottage,
Hempton,
Deddington,
Oxford.
December 18.

Motorway crashes

From Mr Peter Brunnels, MP for Leicester East (Conservative)

Sir, Following the tragic accident on the M25 last week and a number of other motorway accidents, it is becoming more and more obvious that our motorways should be lit up.

There are currently 1,100 miles of unlit motorways which would cost an estimated £90 million to correct. Maintenance and running costs would amount to £9 million per annum.

Statistics prove that motorway lighting can be expected to reduce the accident rate at night and in conditions of poor visibility, particularly if motorists refuse to heed speed limits and warning indicators (when in operation).

With more than 200 people being killed each year on Britain's motorways and with a night-time fatality costing an average £205,000, considerable savings in lives and

money could be made, if the Department of Transport act now.

It would only have cost £7 million to light the M25. Surely this sum is worth the saving it would bring in terms of human life?

Yours sincerely,
PETER BRUNNELS,
House of Commons,
December 18.

From Mr Charles Arnold-Baker,

Sir, If there is a speed limit, why do we allow on our roads vehicles which can go so much faster than the limit? And if you sell me a fabulous monster capable of 130mph why are we not guilty of criminal conspiracy?

I only ask out of interest. Actually I go by train.
Yours faithfully,
CHARLES ARNOLD-BAKER,
Top Floor,
2 Paper Buildings,
Temple, EC4.
December 16.

Death of Sikorski

From Professor Wladimir Z. Kowalski

Sir, It was with considerable delay that I got hold of a copy of the September 7 Times, in which Mr Roger Boyes published the information about the screening in Poland of a new feature film titled *Catastrophe in Gibraltar*. I am the author of the script and am responsible for having the picture tally with historical facts which date back 40 years.

The question regarding the circumstances of General Sikorski's death has so far never been convincingly answered from sources available to historians. After all, that question should be put in the aspect of the opening issue: accident or sabotage? And if sabotage, then by whom?

Writing the film script I was faithful to the opinions which I voiced in my books for decades. These boil down to rejecting the thesis that Sikorski allegedly lost his life in consequence of sabotage inspired by Churchill.

Naturally, the theory pointing at Churchill as the person responsible is very theatrical something well realised by Rolf Hochhuth, who produced a wartime drama based on this story.

In 1980, in my book titled *The Diplomatic Struggle for Poland's Place in Europe, 1939-1945*, I wrote that Hochhuth "displayed more self-confidence than knowledge of history and outright ignorance concerning the diplomatic situation at that time in general, and of the Polish cause in particular". According to Churchill, Sikorski was the only politician who could have assisted his further efforts to resolve the Polish issue. It was only he, as proved by letters exchanged between Churchill and Stalin, who could have ensured

success for a policy of new Polish-Soviet rapprochement. That is why Sikorski's death constituted a serious blow to Winston Churchill, to his political plans of neutralising and limiting the post-war status of the USSR in Poland.

Churchill did not hide that it had been a great loss for him. "It was one of the heaviest blows dealt to us", he said the following morning in Parliament after receiving the news.

Churchill arranged for Sikorski a funeral, as had never been the share of a foreigner in Great Britain. It was more than an expression of debt of gratitude. When words of thanks were extended to him, he raised his hands high up, as during elevation, and exclaimed: "Thus I want to elevate the Polish cause so high."

Just before the funeral General Sosnowski led in Mrs Sikorska. She was dressed all in black. Churchill and his wife, followed by a number of ministers, arrived just after them. "When everybody took their place," said a commentator of the *Polish Daily*, "the Prime Minister knelt down and prayed for several minutes. Colonel Borkowski stood aside, just in case, to help Mrs Sikorska. At a certain moment I saw Churchill weeping."

The script for the picture titled *Catastrophe in Gibraltar*, as well as the movie itself, fits within the framework of the above-mentioned evaluations. It was not the intention of its makers to dot all the i's and cross all the t's though they opted rather for the theory of sabotage without pointing the finger at anyone in particular.

That is why I was amazed reading Mr Boyes' report that the film charged Great Britain as responsible for Sikorski's death.
Yours etc,
WLODZIMIERZ T. KOWALSKI,
Jazgorzewska 7,
00-730 Warsaw,
Poland.

Fairness to staff in Sunday trade

From the President of the Union of Shop, Distributive, and Allied Workers

Sir, You leader, "Observing Sunday, and the law" (December 12), hit the legal nail on the head when it stated, the great department store chiefs are in a rather special position vis-à-vis the established order, having a responsibility towards legality even higher than Mr Patel's on the corner."

Of course, major employers should set an example in obeying the law and I am pleased to note that Debenhams, Woolworth/B&Q and Habitat/Mothercare/Heals have decided to accept that they must obey the 1950 Shops Act.

It is arrant nonsense, however, for Habitat Chairman, Sir Terence Conran, to pretend (December 15) that the only way to update the 1950 Act and end the anomalies is to scrap all controls on shopping hours and remove the protection afforded to shopworkers by abolishing the Shops Act altogether.

To allow seven-day 24-hour trading would be intolerable for retail managers and staff. Sir Terence Conran may get enough volunteers and weekend-only casual staff to open on Sundays and Bank holidays in some of his stores, but his insistence on an experienced full-time staff working on Bank holidays (without the consultations required under the Wages Council Act) resulted in third and final warnings being given to half a dozen of his staff in Manchester, until USDAW stepped in to get these illegal threats withdrawn.

No, Sir, there is too often one law for trade unionists and no law for leading retailers.

Yours faithfully,
SYD TIERNEY, President,
Union of Shop, Distributive and Allied Workers,
188 Wilmshurst Road,
Fallowfield,
Manchester.
December 18.

Dr Alan Clift

From Dr David Patterson and others

Sir, Dr Alan Clift, in the seven years since his suspension from the Home Office Forensic Science Service, has been given no opportunity in the courts to present his side of the matter, to call witnesses or to be represented before an independent tribunal.

At the Preece appeal in the High Court of Justice, Edinburgh (June 19, 1981) before the Lord Justice General, Dr Clift was first referred to as "discredited". He was unrepresented there and at all the subsequent appeals.

He has since been given no public opportunity to defend himself or to argue for his scientific views, despite the fact that the Home Office, who instigated the whole affair, have been permitted to produce witnesses of their own choice, who appear to have condemned Dr Clift solely on the basis of reading his personal case notes, his reports and court transcripts of evidence.

We have even seen one appeal (Machin, December 18, 1981) where the sole ground for allowing the appeal seems to have been a press report of the Preece appeal. Even the Parliamentary Commissioner for Administration, that ultimate resort of the injured citizen, referred in his report (January 1984) to Dr Clift's work as "an unprecedented political exercise of justice at its source", apparently without taking evidence from Dr Clift.

The time has surely come to call a halt to this complete negation of natural justice. We appeal for a tribunal, totally independent of the Civil Service, to be set up to review the whole Clift affair.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID PATTERSON, A. KEITH MANT,
STANLEY H. BURGESS, CHARLES A. ST HILL,
AL CLARK, KEITH SIMPSON,
WILSON R. HARRISON, R. C. WOODCOCK,
STUARTS KIND,
8 Woodlands Close,
Harrogate,
North Yorkshire.

Embryo research

From the Reverend Stephen Leeke

Sir, Today a Harley Street doctor (Robert Newell, December 14) objected to the phrase "defences have been mounted" as emotive, preferring the term "blobs of cells", justified interference in pregnancy on the grounds that we celebrate birthdays, not conception days; and insisted he is not in league with the Devil - "God allows... a high proportion... to die before they are even born."

Such arguments could justify anything. Can we still believe that those who carry out research on human embryos will treat them with respect and take seriously rules such as the 14-day limit recommended by the Warnock committee?

It is impossible for those who deal daily with bottles of "blobs of cells" to treat them as anything other than that, and for this reason such research should be forbidden.
Yours sincerely,
STEPHEN LEEKE,
Rose Cottage,
8 Railway Street,
Cherry Hinton,
Cambridge.
December 14.

Golden oldie

From Mrs Ann McCaw

Sir, While we were shopping in the dark, December afternoon our ears were assaulted by the loud-mouthed juggernauts on the road and by the jets grinding their way into Heathrow overhead.

Also, competing from the loud-speakers of the charity collectors, an amplified choir shrieked "Silent Night".
Yours sincerely,
ANN MCCAW,
15 Leicester Avenue, SW14,
December 16.

OF HUGH
ON-WATSON
of Eastern Europe

THE ARTS

Ludvig Holberg (right) was not only the begetter of a much-loved Suite, but a dramatist of the first importance, born 300 years ago: Anthony Masters reports

A reproof to us all

Holberg? You mean Holberg of the Holberg Suite? Well, I suppose being known only for music composed in your honour is better than nothing; but, considering the fact that Grieg's work is a concert classic anybody can hum, it seems extraordinary that Ludvig Holberg, founder of the Danish theatre, historian, academic, essayist and witty voice of reason, is still buried in the ranks of those great playwrights who have given centuries of pleasure to their own compatriots and are unknown and unappreciated in every other country.

Grieg's work, now exactly 100 years old, is a bicentenary tribute from a fellow-townsmen. Holberg was born 300 years ago in Bergen, Norway. His autobiography tells of a youth spent happily trudging through France, Italy and England, this last trip in company with a friend and a dog (a well-meaning creature which got them thrown out of a nonconformist baptism in Oxford for trying to rescue a lady from total immersion). A quirk of fate turned Copenhagen's young professor of metaphysics and Latin into "the Danish Molière". Soon after he published a satirical *Jeu d'esprit* called *Feder Færs*, which outraged sections of the Danish establishment and became a best-seller overnight, a brave little company of impresarios and actors was given a patent by King Fredrik IV to establish the first Danish-language theatre. But there was no repertoire. Holberg was invited to create one, and wrote five of his best plays for the theatre's opening in 1722. The venture was short-lived: public support was slow, and, only a few months after the first royal subsidy was secured in 1728, the great fire of Copenhagen closed all places of entertainment in a reaction of puritan shock.

Before they could reopen, Fredrik died and was succeeded by the meekly pious Christian VI, under whose regime the flickering flame of Danish theatre was extinguished for nearly 20 years more. But by that time Holberg had written 25 plays. Molière, performed by French comedians, had been the reigning taste and was Holberg's first inspiration, suggesting characters, situations and even dialogue. But Holberg's plays have a quite distinctive flavour, which Grieg's musical tribute manages to suggest very well: suavity, geniality, a good-humoured reproof of pretentiousness and intolerance that sends the audience out of the theatre happier and wiser.



people. Holberg's moral essays have the level sensibility of Addison and Steele in *The Spectator*, and Swift in *Gulliver's Travels* gave him the prototype for *Nickel Klun's Journey to the World Underground*, in which a priggish young Norwegian visits fabulous communities that show mankind's noblest and basest qualities taken to extremes.

Jeppes of the Hill, Holberg's best loved play, develops the Christopher Sly motif in *The Taming of the Shrew*, which he would have been able to see during his London stay in 1706. Jeppes the peasant, like Sly the tinker, is the victim of a princely practical joke: a drunken lord awakes from a drunken sleep to find himself dressed like a lord with banquets and servants laid on. But Jeppes, in contrast to Sly's contented coarseness, is a sad little fellow, worked to death, poor, alcoholic, whipped by his wife, and pathetically weak. No wonder he spends all his wife's shopping money in the tavern.

He is everybody's victim, from the callous innkeeper to the deacon who is seducing his wife. And, as if his brief interlude of wealth and privilege were not cruel enough, Holberg has the joke turn very nasty: Jeppes is tried for fraud, made to swallow "poison" and hung on a gibbet, before being released. Only when giving a glorified account of his adventures in the pub does he realize that everyone is already in the know. This great role, the Danish equivalent of what Italian, moves expertly through the difficult area separating comedy from pathos.

Holberg's lighter works are generally scourgings of folly, from *Erasmus Montanus* (a satire on pedantic philosophers reminiscent of the *Diogenes* scenes in *Le Malade Imaginaire*) to *The Political Tinker*, another practical-joke plot in which a shoemaker and political know-all is proclaimed mayor with predictably wretched consequences.

Public-bar, wisecracks, of course, are still with us and such extreme devices are unnecessary to make *The Political Tinker* contemporary. But it is with the subtle and disturbing *Jeppes of the Hill* (which actually made the Philochry Festival a few years back) that the Holberg revival ought to start. It is not just national pride or cultural duty that has Copenhagen's current productions of *Jeppes* and *Erasmus Montanus* packed to the doors. It is time that, 250 years or so late, we discovered what we have been missing.

London galleries at Christmastide

Fun is a serious business

John French
Victoria and Albert
Museum

Chinese Ornament
British Museum

Contemporary
Aboriginal Art of
North Australia
Australia House

Academic Painters
Imperial War Museum

What do you mean, you thought something jolly would be nice for the holiday season? Anyone would think you expected art to be fun. Well, all right then: apology accepted. But don't do it again. And now, let me see what I can find to cater for your evidently perverse tastes. Jolly? I think probably the best contender for that title would be John French's work as a fashion photographer at the Victoria and Albert until March 10. Not, needless to say, that the show for a moment gives the impression that photographing fashion is anything other than a very serious and businesslike business: though in the Fifties *Look at Life* they have obligingly to hand, illustrating French actually at work in his studio, we see quite a lot of a top model, Barbara Goalen, posing her superb in a howling gale (she loves speed, the commentary says), you can tell that the life is not exactly one big bed of roses.

But French seems to have enjoyed it, and everybody, surprisingly enough, seems to have enjoyed working with him. In the early Fifties he began to revolutionize fashion photography by banishing haze and bringing in masses of light, so that every detail (every detail he wanted you to see, at any rate) was crystal-clear. "But you can see every seam", spat out a glossy editor in deep disgust. So you could, and you can. Though the clothes from French's heyday - he died at the height of his powers in 1966 - may have dated, the way they are shown has not, and is to the point, and often with a saving sense of the grotesque which introduces a charming kind of home-grown surrealism, these pictures last. And, come to think of it, those mini-skirts and Op Art fabrics and lunar helmet-hats suddenly do not look all that terrible either: time, evidently, and more than time, for a re-think.

I do not know that you could call the British Museum's Chinese Ornament show (until May 5) jolly, but it is certainly very pretty, which is just as good for the holidays, if not better. It is also, in a sly way, extremely informative. The point is not in the title, or even the sub-title (*The Lotus and the Dragon*), but sneaks up on you gradually: the influences clearly went backwards and forwards along the Silk Road and other routes of trade and conquest between East and West with astounding regularity from the time of Alexander on. Far from the twain never meeting, it proves in practice impossible to keep them apart.

Some motifs, such as the acanthus leaf and the capitals of the major classical orders, travelled east at a very early stage, and can be unmistakably traced right across Asia. Then, later, some Chinese forms and ideas, such as the mythical creatures we variously (if imprecisely) call dragons and phoenixes, the fish and the flowers and the kinds of porcelain upon which they were often deployed, travelled westwards again to become inescapable in Persian and Ottoman ceramics, carpets and elsewhere.

Indeed, some of the "Chinese" elements which came back were transformed versions of what had begun anyway in the West. All this the show lets you know if you care to; but, if you do not, then just enjoy the feast of colour and design it offers, and leave others to worry about whether the trabecated arches of the East (they are the sort with a flat top and slightly converging sides) were simply misunderstandings of primitive attempts to render perspective in the West.

The traditional life-pattern of the Australian Aboriginal can never have been a source of much innocent merriment. From the catalogue of the Australia Council's show Contemporary Aboriginal Art of North Australia (Australia House, until January 11) we learn, for instance, that death was not only elaborately mourned, with wailing and self-mutilation, but it was never regarded as a natural occurrence: someone or something always had to be to blame. Curiously, in such a paranoid world, the art usually looks very cheery indeed. The paintings on bark or wood which make up most of the show are full of life (natural, I suppose, among a people who saw no reason why life should not go on for ever), and of action. There are hunting scenes, scenes of procreation, pictures of the stick-like mimi spirits, who for all their skeletal appearance were generally regarded as beneficent, teachers of useful skills and such, and of appealing-looking local mar-supials. The carvings take up the same themes, and there is also no dearth of abstract pattern-making, especially from the Tiwi tribe, whose art - uniquely in the world? - was wholly abstract from the earliest traceable times.

It would be interesting to know more detail about the circumstances of the recent and living artists represented. We are told that some of them use modern, commercially produced

fixatives in their otherwise traditional work, but I was unable to trace any visible sign of the cheapening and cloying which generally goes on when supposedly simple native inhabitants continue to produce their traditional art for a modern market. How has this magical artistic innocence been preserved? Are the Aborigines less touched than one supposes by the modern society all round them, or have they a remarkably strong continuing consciousness of their own special qualities? Whichever, there is strength as well as beauty here in abundance.

No doubt the Imperial War Museum's show Academic Painters: Forgotten Artists of the First World War (until March 10) does not sound too



Banishing haze, bringing in light: John French's fashion photograph of Nicole de la Margé for Harper's Bazaar, October 1965

much like a bundle of laughs either. Nor is it, for who would be so unkind as to laugh at the straining symbolism of Charles Butler's *Blood and Iron* (Christ comforting a mangled mother in a scene of devastation, sneeringly surveyed by a beastly Hun on horseback) or John Hassell's *The Vision of St George over the Battlefield*? Quite a number, possibly, of the long-suffering liberal parents dragged by their children to look at the tanks and guns. But in doing so they are undoubtedly doing the right thing: the show courts ridicule in order to make a perfectly serious point about the kind of rabid home-front patriotism which, as Nurse Cavell observed with different intention, was never even enough.

Some of the other academics seen here, reflecting on a war which, ironically, was to become the great preserve of the modernists, continue quite decently to do what they always did: only the title of Frederick Mayors' large Impressionist townscape *British General Headquarters, Place de l'Eglise, Montreuil* hints at war nearby, and it is fairly coincidental that Stanhope Forbes's sail-makers happen this time to be WRNS. Nor are Stuart Reid's *Boys Own Paper* heroes in *Bombing of the Wadi Fara* (horses against by-planes), really objectionable, since no one could take them very seriously. They make you smile, but they also make you think.

John Russell Taylor

Channel 4's most distinguished offering tomorrow is Christopher Nupen's two-hour film about Sibelius: interview by Peter Lewis

Forests transformed into music

"For God's sake don't think of film as art - it's craft," Christopher Nupen likes to quote this maxim, given to him by Visconti when he is explaining the techniques that have won so many awards for the music films he has directed for television since 1967. The latest prize-winner, from the International Festival of New York, is *Jean Sibelius*, which Channel 4 is transmitting for two hours on Christmas night.

Nupen's approach is almost the direct opposite of Ken Russell's. No actors masquerade as composers or as the women in their lives. No filmic fantasy accompanies the music. "I don't see an actor getting to the heart of what a great composer means to us. What is really important about Schubert or Mozart - or Sibelius - is not reachable by impersonating them. I would never do that. I use the camera to show, not them, but the sights that they saw, together with the music and their own words. I admire Ken Russell's breathtaking talent but personally I like to hide myself as much as possible."

In his Sibelius film the visual element consists partly of hair-distinct close-ups of the orchestra and in equal measure of the Finnish landscapes that inspired Sibelius and were the natural complement to his tone-poems and symphonies. It is as if we experience forests made music: the screen is saturated with images of trees, water, trees and clouds, trees and snow. Their black and white verticals go flying past the camera, mixing and dissolving in semi-abstract compositions that are sometimes an uncanny match for the sound.

To this are added the words of the composer's diaries, which often give moving and poetic descriptions of his struggles with musical form, "to write what is ultimately and forever right". Fortunately the composer is available to play himself in the brief glimpses we have of him on archive footage. The Finnish state has also carefully preserved the country house, Ainola, some 25 miles outside Helsinki, where he lived with his wife for 53 years and where much of the film was shot.

Any treatment of Sibelius is faced with the enigma of his last 30 years of silence. Nupen attributes it partly to the world's impossible expectations combined with the composer's waning powers and increasing self-criticism, which also increased his drinking. "I think his nerve failed him," he says. At any rate, before his death at 92, he took the finished pages of the Eighth Symphony on which he had been working for over 20 years and incinerated them. "There was a big bonfire here," said his wife, "but I stayed in another room."

It is often said that television music programmes would be better without the expected pictures of musicians sawing away. How does Nupen obtain results so superior to the



Nupen: self-effacing

average? Intense and dedicated in manner, he insists it is a matter of taking time and trouble with the craftsmanship, as Visconti indicated. The Sibelius programme took more than 18 months to create, with three visits to Finland to shoot in different kinds of weather. He used 10 cameras, instead of the usual three, to record the Swedish Radio Symphony Orchestra. "We go for one take only because orchestras get bored very quickly and they must not only play well but seen to play well."

Over several films, Nupen has built up a rapport with this orchestra which enables his cameras to take positions that

other musicians would balk at. Boris Belkin, the soloist in the Violin Concerto, had a camera 12 inches away over his shoulder. And Vladimir Ashkenazy, who directs the orchestra, is a close collaborator and friend. Nupen has been making films about him since the Sixties.

The matching of picture and sound is, naturally, the director's most vital function. "The picture should help the ear, so that both picture and sound resonate together. Ideally, the picture should tell you one thing, the music another and the commentary should add a third. He always writes and speaks his own commentary, providing the film with coherent framework. Some viewers will be surprised to find that he has sacrificed *Valse triste* and *The Swan of Tuonela* because they would not fit into the development of Sibelius as a symphonist."

The film was five months in the cutting room. "All films are made in the cutting room," Nupen insists. "It is the care and especially the time that is put into editing that counts. You can't put in the closing credits 'This film would have been better if we had had more time'. It's the old dilemma - do you want it good or do you want it Tuesday?" It was because the BBC wanted it, if not Tuesday, sooner than he could be satisfied with the result, that he resigned in 1968 and set up as the earliest of independent television producers. His BBC team of the cameraman David Findlay and the film editor Peter Heelas went with him.

They had already been acclaimed for their intimate portraits of performers, such as Ashkenazy, Daniel Barenboim (seen together in *Double Concerto*) and Jacqueline du Pré. Together they now made a full-length portrait of Ashkenazy and *The Trout*, which has probably been televised more than any other comparable music programme. Another prize-winner was the film of Segovia, a hero of Nupen's, whose instrument was the guitar. He went to Siena to study with him and there made the original radio feature for the Third Programme which set him on his path to television.

Financing his films has always been a tricky business, and Channel 4 came in the nick of time, when he was on the point of having to stop for lack of adequate funding from the BBC alone. With Channel 4 and German and Swedish networks as regular customers, he turned to making films about composers - Respighi, Mussorgsky, Brahms and the Schumanns, and now Sibelius. Next comes Schoenberg, and in the distance looms Rachmaninov. Of course, being a frustrated performer helps. "I had the choice of becoming a second-rate guitarist or trying to be a first-class producer of music for television," he says. "There can be little doubt that he was wise to choose to be the second."

Sibelius walking in the forests of Finland

Television Vigorous survivor

adventure becomes an opportunity for the exploration of characters and settings on a grand guignol scale, last night's plot having to do with a German plan to leak poison gas into the homes of Londoners. And once again it can become the vehicle for that peculiarly English combination of genuine horror and spirited comedy. This is a difficult tone to catch without self-parody, but N. J. Crisp's script managed to perform the trick, apparently to the satisfaction of everyone concerned: this was altogether an excellent production.

Baryshnikov's Don Quixote (Channel 4), performed by the

American Ballet Theatre at the Metropolitan Opera House in New York, was more or less what might have been expected. It was "directed for television", but there are few things less suitable for television than ballet of this kind.

The conventional nature of the sets and costumes is at much more of a disadvantage on the small screen, and the camera itself sets up such a distance between spectacle and audience that we seem to be watching everything through the wrong end of a pair of opera-glasses.

Of course there is no reason why Baryshnikov's dancing should not be seen on television, but there is also no reason why it should not be in some way related to the medium. Last night's production was about as suitable for television as an illuminated manuscript would be for a newspaper.

Peter Ackroyd

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[illegible]

3,070,000	DG Vty				
298,200	Bund	-626	+18	8.5	2.1
111,500	Carbon Cases	-845	+15	8.5	1.3
10,000	Cover	245	+25	11.5	4.7
2,340,000	Fat Packaged	103	+10	5.0	4.9
4,720,000	Copper Element			2.9	2.4
127,200	DRG	182	+0	8.5	8.1
3,322,000	E-Labels Paper	115	+11	3.0	4.5
15.4k	Elanatus Pulp	440	+18	7.0	1.6
19.8k	Gears Gross	147	-1	5.7	3.8
22.0k	Good Relations	280	+2	5.1	1.8

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FINANCE AND INDUSTRY

Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

The 1984 awards for business and related arts

For the second year, we are presenting *The Times* Awards for Achievement in Business and Related Arts. Bankers, brokers and captains of industry who have influenced the lives of all of us should not be overlooked merely because they are completely unknown to the great British public. The awards also have a secondary purpose: they fill a gap between the non-arrival of confidential letters indicating that a New Year Honour is in the wind and actual publication of the List when feelings of anger or envy are often hard to suppress.

In a vintage year of bubbling stock markets, frenetic political activity and a fine crop of banana skins, the judges had a difficult time deciding who were the most deserving in each category. The principal award, for Supreme Achievement, was no exception. The short list included Ian MacGregor, chairman of the National Coal Board, Robert Maxwell, who emerged from behind a brass plate in Lichfield as the publisher of the *Daily Mirror*, and Lord King, chairman of British Airways.



Winners: Lord King, for Supreme Achievement, and Mrs Thatcher, Capitalist of the Year.

The panel decided that as Mr MacGregor's business with Arthur Scargill was still unfinished, it should postpone any award until 1986 at the earliest.

There was strong support for Captain Bob whose failure to buy the *News of the World* light years ago was put into perspective this year by a near miss with *The Observer* (his instant breakfast with Ob proprietor Tiny Rowland prompted the famous remark: "I bet I know who had those kidneys"; 15.54 per cent of Fleet Holdings; and of course Mirror Group Newspapers. However, his miscalculations - Waddingtons and the Fife oil rig construction yard to name but two - told against him.

The Supreme Achievement is therefore Lord King's. Though the privatization of BA has been put back, our once torpid national airline has been transformed under his leadership. In the process Lord King persuaded half BA's staff to give up index-linked pensions; ran rings round Nicholas Ridley, the Secretary of State for Transport; and simultaneously neutered the Civil Aviation Authority. President Reagan was induced to call off the Federal Grand Jury investigation into allegations of anti-competitive practices leading up to Laker's collapse. And to crown an outstanding year, the Aviation Bill fell foul of the Stansted lobby (alas, poor Ridley again!).

The Capitalist of the Year award could have gone in several distinguished directions but none who might have been called to receive it would quibble for the moment with the judges' unanimous choice. No one has done more this year, or perhaps in any year for capitalism in Britain than the Prime Minister herself.

Her devotion to the cause of the market economy privatization and wider ownership has not flickered. The Government's success in floating British Telecom on a sea of two million private investors may indeed prove to have been a turning point in our political and social history.

There was one extraordinary deviation from the privatization path and it resulted in the panel's decision to give the Socialist of the Year award to the Governor of the Bank of England, Robin Leigh-Pemberton. Not in Roy Hattersley's wildest dreams would a bank have been nationalised under a Tory Government. Yet that was the fate of Johnson Matthey Bankers, which now nestles within the Bank of England. The Governor's credentials for this award were established beyond a sliver of doubt when the state-owned Bank made it clear that it did not regard its funds as taxpayers' money.

The other major award, the Poisoned Chalice, goes to Sir Maurice Hodgson, who was put in an impossible position by his predecessor as chairman of Dunlop, Sir Campbell Fraser. It was, in fact, only a matter of timing that prevented Sir Maurice receiving the award last year. His successor, Sir Michael Edwards, receives a special award, in the shape of a silver bust of Salome's Mother, to mark his second amazing pay-off (from ICL) and the number of heads of Dunlop directors he demanded on a plate.

The other awards are: The Marie Celeste Pennant: To Kenneth Baker now master-minding the sinking of the Greater London Council and the metropolitan counties, who as Minister for Information Technology, was responsible for the mysterious disappearance of the great cable revolution.

The Sir Keith Joseph Certificate for Consummate Tact:

To Simon Keswick, the Tapan of Jardine, Matheson, for moving the princely hong's residence from Hong Kong to Bermuda at the precise moment when confidence in the Crown Colony's future was at its most fragile.

The Golden Cornucopia: To Sir George Jefferson, on behalf of British Telecom, whose release to the investing public enabled everyone concerned to get richer.

Two other awards are connected with the marketing of BT:

Salesman of the Year is David Clementi of merchant bankers Kleinwort, Benson, who lead the successful The Archimedes Sponge goes to Jeffrey Sterling, an adviser to Norman Tebbit at the Department of Trade and Industry, who thought up the BT telephone voucher in his bath.

The Robert Bruce Award for Persistence has been won by Sir Nigel Brookes, chairman of Trafalgar House. Undeterred from failing to span the Channel by acquiring first P. & O. and then Sealink, he has now determined to build a combined bridge and tunnel.

The Merchant Banker of the Year is shared by George Magan and Roger Seelig of Morgan Grenfell. After an excellent run in 1983, the MG team has again led the field this year. Although it ought have been easy for Mr Magan, Unilever's acquisition of Brooke Bond proved no such thing. The P & O defence was ably done, but the best performance undoubtedly was in Dixon against Currys. Mr Seelig's refusal to accept Scottish Amicable's withdrawal of the crucial acceptance remains his.



Winners: Leigh-Pemberton (left), Socialist of the Year, and Sir Maurice Hodgson, the Poisoned Chalice.

ance that gave Dixon victory demonstrated (to SG Warburg, W Greenwell and the paying spectators) that, like professional football, the merchant banking takeover game is all about winning.

Another new award this year, The Ostrich Feathers, attracted a strong entry. The panel, with little hesitation, felt that for failing to see the reality immediately around him, Jeffrey Bowman senior partner of accountants Price Waterhouse, who failed to merge with Deloitte was the clear winner.

The Realist of the Year, the panel decided without demur, is Sir Alex Jarrett, chairman of the Reed Group. At one blow he went back on his word (for the sake of Reed shareholders) took Robert Maxwell's money for Mirror Group Newspapers and stabbed poor Clive Thornton, Dreamer of the Year, in the back. An altogether impressive achievement which might well qualify him to be the next chairman of the Midland Bank.

It only remains to thank all those who put their names forward for this year's awards, and wish them all, winners and losers alike, a Happy Christmas.

Al-Fayed's sue Marwan over House of Fraser share story

By Philip Robinson

A High Court injunction is being sought against Dr Ashraf Marwan, the Egyptian businessman, to prevent him from repeating statements suggesting that the near 30 per cent stake in House of Fraser held by the Al-Fayed brothers is in fact in Far Eastern hands.

Brothers Mohammed, Ali and Salah Al-Fayed, who hold the 29.9 per cent stake in the group which owns Harrods through the Al-Fayed Investment and Trust company, confirmed yesterday that they had issued a writ against Dr Marwan. It claims damages for defamation and the brothers are seeking an injunction to prevent Dr Marwan from repeating his allegations.

The Al-Fayed brothers bought their stake in Fraser early last month for £138 million from Lorrain, the international mining and casino group headed by Mr Roland "Tiny" Rowland.

In a formal statement, the Al-Fayed brothers said that the question of true beneficial ownership of their stake in Fraser had been raised in recent press reports. It says: "The incontrovertible fact is that they (the Al-Fayed brothers) are the beneficial owners of the shares which they financed out of their own funds and they do not hold them on behalf of or as a nominee for anyone else."

The statement adds: "The Al-Fayed brothers believe that the

source of these false and damaging rumours is Ashraf Marwan.

Dr Marwan, who formerly held a 5 per cent stake in the House of Fraser, was not available for comment last night. A spokesman for his London office said last week that he was due to return from America today.

It is understood that reports have been circulating which suggested Mr Mohammed Al-Fayed had been given power of attorney by the Sultan of Brunei and as such was acting on his behalf when purchasing the stake in Fraser.

Sources to the Al-Fayed say that Mr Mohammed Al-Fayed did not have power of attorney

from the Sultan except for one specific deal which related to a 747-jet aircraft.

There have been other suggestions that the Al-Fayed brothers are in some way linked with Mr Rowland, who has built a 6.3 per cent stake in Fraser since selling the Al-Fayed's his previous holding.

The Al-Fayed have repeatedly denied any links with Mr Rowland or any other businessman and have sent a letter of support to Professor Roland Smith, chairman of the House of Fraser.

Mr Rowland and Lord Duncan-Sandys, the Lorrain chairman, are due to resign their board places at Fraser this week.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Forecasters divided over dollar

Currency forecasters are divided on whether the dollar's long-awaited fall will occur next year. A sharp dollar fall, which had previously been considered a near certainty next year, is now in doubt after the latest rise in the US currency's value, despite lower American interest rates and a widening current account deficit.

James Capel, the stockbroker, in his *International Bond & Currency Review* published today, predicts a 10 per cent dollar decline next year.

The main argument against this, and for continued dollar strength, James Capel says, rests on stronger than expected growth in the US economy next year. The broker says: "If we also assume in this scenario that there is little action to cut the federal deficit significantly, short-term interest rates may rebound next year, as credit demands from both public and private sectors build up. This set of developments, in isolation, is consistent with a continuation of dollar strength, as real returns from holding dollar assets remain higher."

It is this view which has led International Treasury Management, a currency forecasting group owned jointly by the Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Corporation and Marine Midland Bank, to forecast continuing dollar strength next year.

Cable TV sale

British Electronic Traction has completed the sale of its cable television interests to Mr Robert Maxwell for £9 million. Mr Maxwell's private company Metromed will take over BET's subsidiary British Cable Service. Rediffusion's cable television development centre at Coombe, Surrey, the proposed cable network at Guildford, Surrey, and BET's 14 per cent holding in United Cable Programme.

Simplex buy-out

A £27.5 million management buy-out of the Simplex-GE electrical engineering group of companies from General Electric of the US has been arranged by Candover Investments. Simplex produces a wide range of electrical control, distribution and installation equipment used by the mining, petrochemical, construction and general engineering industries.

Watch on BAT

Standard & Poor's Corporation has placed BAT Industries and Tidewater on its "credit-watch" surveillance list in New York. Standard Poor's said BAT's inclusion was due to its plans to purchase Hambro Life.

Race for Japan

American banks are competing for the chance to manage one of the fastest-growing sources of new capital: Japanese pension funds. As part of a cautious move to open up its financial markets, Japan has announced plans to grant "trust banking" licences for up to eight foreign banks next year.

Nigeria criticizes Opec price plan

By David Young, Energy Correspondent

Nigeria, which is already out of step with its Opec colleagues in matching lower North Sea prices, has criticized the price plan which the producers' cartel hopes will stabilize world oil markets.

The price formula, due for discussion when the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries resumes its ministerial meeting in Geneva on Thursday, leaves the market price unchanged at \$29, but increases the cost of heavy crude oil from \$26 to \$26.50 and cuts the cost of light oil by 15 cents.

Opec aims to drive customers back from the increasingly important spot market, where prices have been almost \$2 a barrel cheaper, to the contract system.

Opec determination to do so has forced the British Government to reconsider plans to move more North Sea oil through the spot market and

Sinclair 'not affected by Prism snag'

By Our City Staff

Serious financial problems at Prism Technology, a wholesaler to Sir Clive Sinclair's home computer company, are unlikely to affect the planned flotation of the company next March.

Mr Kenneth Dick, a director of both Sinclair Research and of Rothschilds merchant bank which is bringing the company to market, said yesterday he would be astonished if Prism's problems affected the sales, profits or flotation plans of Sinclair.

He said the problem at the moment was making enough home computers to get into the shops to satisfy the Christmas demand. The outlets that really mattered were the big retail chains like W H Smiths, Boots, Dixons and John Menzies.

Sinclair sells directly to these chains, whereas Prism, which is thought to account for about one-third of United Kingdom sales, sells to computer stores and other retail chains like Rumbelows and Laskys.

Post-Christmas sales are crucial to Sinclair in the timing and pricing of the flotation. The prospectus will be issued on the Basis of sales in the year ending March 31 next.

In 1983-84 profits were £14.3 million, virtually unchanged from the previous year despite a 42 per cent rise in sales, due to the launch costs of the QL computer and the flat screen television.

Prism Technology has been having talks with its bank, Barclays, to try to hammer out a rescue package following a dramatic plunge into losses in the last few months. The high rate of returns on Sinclair products is understood to have caused some of its problems.

US NOTEBOOK

Now, who's afraid of inflation?

The continuing collapse of US short-term interest rates, which began at the end of August, has so far failed to rekindle fears of escalating inflation in the financial markets.

On the contrary, as short-term interest rates have plunged, key indicators of inflationary sentiment in the financial markets have weakened, indicating diminishing, not escalating, concern over inflation in these markets.

I do not believe this development means we are going to have a continuing strong bond rally. Nor do I believe that bonds are going to fall out of bed as a result of the drop in short-term interest rates and any supposed inflationary stimulus that drop may bring about.

Note the force of the drop in US interest rates that has occurred. Between the end of August and Monday of this week:

● Federal funds have dropped from 11½ to 7½ per cent - a fall of 32 per cent.

● Long-term treasury yields have fallen from 12.7 per cent to 11.6 per cent - a fall of 9 per cent.

● 90-day Treasury-bill yields have fallen from 10.7 per cent to 7.95 per cent - a fall of 25 per cent.

These are heroic falls in short-term rates. The yield curve has become much steeper as a result. Such declines would have been expected to produce the following results:

● A fall in the dollar.

● A rise in the price of gold.

● Some buoyancy in stock prices.

● Some buoyancy in commodity prices.

As yet, none of these developments has occurred. Three important indicators must make us think about what is going to happen in 1985 and about the sort of economy we are dealing with.

First, the price of gold has continued to fall. Since the end of August, when US short-term interest rates really started to tumble, the price of February 1985 gold futures has dropped from \$373 to \$317 - a fall of 14 per cent.

Second, the dollar has continued strong. Third, the Commodity Research Bureau index of commodity futures fell from 258 at the end of August to 246 last Monday - a fall of 5 per cent.

The markets are telling us that they are not afraid of inflation; that speculative profits in gold and commodities will be a long time coming; and that we are in a strange new world of disinflation that may be far more ingrained than we have yet perceived.

Maxwell Newton

ORDINARY SHARES

Strong dollar lifts pharmaceuticals

Paul Clifton

sector, it is unlikely that another year of strong outperformance of the market is in prospect. Further actions by governments limiting pharmaceutical companies' profitability are also likely to be restraining factors. Nevertheless, with the prospect of further gains in the stock market generally in 1985, pharmaceutical shares should still appreciate in absolute terms.

Glaxo's share price has risen by more than 50 per cent in 1984. Profits will continue to grow rapidly for the next two years, largely due to the anti-ulcer product, Zantac. However, much of this growth is now discounted by a prospective multiple in the high teens. Glaxo's share price performance in 1985 will rest on an intriguing balance between the virtually guaranteed growth of the next two years and the uncertainty regarding the impact of new competitive products thereafter.

Beecham's recent profits growth has been sluggish and

the shares have performed more in line with the market, rising by 23 per cent in 1984. A more optimistic view of Beecham is now emerging. There are hopes that its new arthritis treatment, nabumetone, will be approved in the United Kingdom reasonably soon in the new year. The combination antibiotic, Augmentin, has got off to a very good start in the US and will be launched in Japan in 1985. Other new pharmaceutical products are also in the pipeline.

Fisons' share price has appreciated by almost 60 per cent this year, following good growth from all sides of the business. However, growth will inevitably slow in 1985 since the past two years have reflected the benefits of major corporate restructuring. Fisons' high multiple seems a fair reflection of good, but not spectacular, growth prospects.

Smith & Nephew shares have also risen by almost 60 per cent in 1984, with profits in the first 40 weeks up by nearly 25 per

cent. However, it is unrealistic to expect this sort of performance to continue indefinitely, and we are forecasting slower growth in 1985. The prospective multiple is the highest in the sector and a downward adjustment of 2 to 3 points may be required. Thus, 1985 could be a year in which the share price finally pauses for breath after four years of consistent outperformance.

Among the smaller companies, Amersham has turned out to be the best performing stock in the sector after good interim figures which were assisted by the strength of the dollar. In the absence of this factor, a more pedestrian profits and share price performance should be expected in 1985-86. Macarthy's share price has been in the doghouse for some time due to its continuing margins in pharmaceutical wholesaling. The situation now appears to have stabilized.

Since even analysts have been known to make mistakes, we decided to consult the ghost of Christmas yet to come to check the accuracy of this article. Unfortunately, the insider trading rules precluded comment. We did learn that Scrooge will contact a peptic ulcer due to worrying whether his broker is being paid too much commission. However, this will quickly be cleared up by the combination of a once-nightly dose of Zantac and a one for one Glaxo scrip issue.

The author is a pharmaceutical analyst at Scott Giff Layton & Co.

Base Lending Rates

ABN Bank	9½%
Adam & Company	9½%
Barclays	9½%
BCCI	9½%
Citibank Savings	10½%
Consolidated Credit	9½%
Continental Trust	9½%
C. Hoare & Co	9½%
Lloyds Bank	9½%
Midland Bank	9½%
Nat Westminster	9½%
TSB	9½%
Williams & Glyn's	9½%
Citibank NA	9½%

* Mortgage Base Rate.

† 7 day deposits on sums of under £10,000, 6% to £10,000 up to £50,000, 7½% £50,000 and over, 9%.

MARKET SUMMARY

INTEREST RATES

London:
Bank Base: 8½-9½%
3-month interbank 10-9½%
3-month Treasury bills 9½-9%
buying rate
US:
Prime Rate 10.75%
Federal Funds 7.7%
3-month Treasury Bills 7.77-7.73%
Long bond 103-103½

GOLD

London fixing:
am \$308.85pm \$311
close \$310.50-\$311.24 (£294.40-295.25)
New York:
Comex \$311.00

CURRENCIES

London:
£ \$1.735 (-0.0185)
DM \$2.9520 (-0.038)
Sfr \$2.0125 (-0.0065)
FF 11.1950 (-0.1275)
Yen 230.75 (-4.8)
Index 73.2 (-1.0)
New York:
£ \$1.725
DM \$3.1100
Sfr 143.5 (+0.2)

STOCK MARKETS

FT Ind Ord 924.30 (-11.1)
FT-A All Share 579.98 (+1.43)
FT Gov Securities 51.9 (-0.44)
FTSE 100 1204.7 (-0.1)
Surgals 22.518
Datastream USM 103.39 (-3.01)
Tokyo
Nikkei Dow 11,474.3 (+55.15)
Hong Kong
Hang Seng 1198.58 (+58.5)
Amsterdam 181.0 (+2.9)
Sydney:AO 719.7 (+1.0)
Frankfurt
Commerzbank 1093.0 (+15.4)
Brussels
Generale 157.50 (-0.21)
Paris:CAC 180.9 (+0.2)
Zurich
SKA General 319.30 (+1.0)

BOARD MEETINGS

TODAY: Intertec and final: Norie.
THURSDAY: Intertec: Anchor International Fund (quarterly).
Friday: None.
FRIDAY: Intertec: Arbuthnot Securities Trust (second quarter).
Bermuda International Bond Fund.
Stavert Zigmale. Final: None.

Vision of brave new world after the big bang

R. L. Thomas

Gilt-edged clients of W Greenwell & Co who have spoken to me over the years have often accused me of having psychic powers, so uncannily dead they have been my powers to job backwards. Recently, while tossing and turning sleeplessly and worrying about my firm's involvement in primary market making in the new order of the gilt market, I did indeed have one of my visions and I thought that it may be of interest if I were to put down the verbatim story.

The first scene appeared to be set on the actual first day of dealing after "the big bang" Friday July 13 1993, at the opening of the market at 2.00pm London time. (New market hours apparently having been fixed at 2.00pm-1.00pm to coincide with New York). I can recall this quite clearly from a newspaper's account of how delighted Lord Goodison was at the speed at which both of the remaining members of the Stock Exchange Council had

managed to push the changes to the system through. The only doubts being expressed were those of some of the smaller firms of brokers, who had mistakenly thought that they had voted for the maintenance and legislation for single capacity as a *quid pro quo* for phasing out fixed commissions in a deal struck with the Government some years ago.

I was listening to the conversation between our market trader and one of our salesmen.

Salesman: "I'm being asked for a price in \$50 million nominal of 'Never Nevets' (Funding 3½ per cent 1999/2004)."

Trader: "Gee, Mike, that's a tough one to pick as a first trade. Pretty unmarketable, and with sterling back up to 30 cents

despite US money supply being up only \$30 billion last night, I'm gonna have to make you a rather wide price: 98½-½ in \$50 million."

Salesman: (hand over telephone) "Look, Hank, I can't possibly make that wide a price to this guy, he's one of our best clients and he tells me that the Italians, Salami Brothers, are making him a choice price in \$500 million."

Trader: "Hey, Mike, this gilt market ain't no cream bun; Salamis are making a price in bigger size than the issue in this one. They say that Never Nevets is too negative a name for the salesmen to market, so they're stripping the coupon, doubling the size of the issue and changing the name to Always Always. Still, I guess it's the firm's policy to try to hmg

on to our retail customers, so I'll have to be commercial. I'll make you 98½-½ in \$50 million."

Salesman: "A backwardation; are you sure you're going to make money out of this, because naturally I'm not taking any commission from the client?"

Trader: "Hell no? But that's hardly the point of the new system, is it? Make him the price."

Salesman: "Hold on... look, the client is worried that if we're making that close a price, we must know something. Is the miners' strike over? Has Kaufman turned bullish again? He's even accusing me of knowing what position the firm's book has got."

Trader: "How ridiculous; with our system of Chinese Walls, even I don't know that. Okay, let's try another tack. Tell him we've just seen some huge business from Mercantile

Nomura Wedd Akroyd Case-nove Conti & Co, and that we're gonna have to change our price. Make him 98¼/99½ in only half a million."

Salesman: "Hold on... Ah, that's better; the client says now he understands what's going on. Just like the good old days he says. He'll buy half a million, and he's even giving me one-eighth commission. He's so pleased. Reckons we must be caught short."

Trader: "Great, Mike, now all I've got to do is undo the business. Let's hope I can get through to the Government Broker some time today. Last time I tried I was told that there were 361 other calls from primary dealers holding ahead of me, and I would have to wait. Anyway, I'll start looking through all the IDB screens now, and should find the touch price within half an hour. Hey, not a bad first trade eh...?"

The author is a gilt-edged partner of W. Greenwell & Co.

STOCK MARKET REVIEW

Exchange's smallest company scores highest increase

Even in a year when leading shares surged impressively to new peaks, it is still an unknown small one which has made the most outstanding progress, offering the tantalising prospect of a dream rise to riches.

BAT Industries may have doubled to 350p and the 50p-paid British Telecom shares touched 103p, but its down among the stock market's leaders that the soaring 1984 share winner lurks.

Dura Mill, which for years plodded on quietly as a Lancashire textile business, enjoying the distinction of being Britain's smallest quoted company, has achieved a remarkable 882.6 per cent gain, climbing from equal to 6.92p a share to 68p.

It is not, of course, Dura's unexciting textile operations which have created the advance. The arrival of persistent entrepreneur, one-time financial journalist, Mr David Burne, has spurred the shares.

His Corporate Financial Services has 75 per cent of Dura and, the market is convinced, intends to refashion the business.

Already, some by now traditional moves in such an exercise have been completed. Mr Burne has reorganised the Dura capital and announced a rights issue. All that remains is for Dura's high-flying, highly-rated shares to be used for a takeover bid.

Mr Burne is no stranger to the laughter and tears of the stock market's twists and turns. With his brother Malcolm he built up a modest financial empire in the early 1970s. But their tender business was swamped in the crisis of the mid-1970s.

So David returned to scribbling and Malcolm moved to the Far East. He is now empire building in Australia.

Mr David Burne is involved in another "shell" company, Kraft Productions, a furniture maker. Its shares have been suspended throughout the year. But in 1983 they were the fifth best-performing share, recording a 325 per cent gain.

Dura is comfortably ahead of its nearest 1984 rival, C.H. Bailey, the Bristol-based ship repairers. Its tightly held "B" shares have appreciated by 43 per cent.

Pentland Industries is in third spot, with a 418 per cent

WINNERS		
Company	Price	Percentage
Dura Mill	68.00	+882.6
British Telecom	103.00	+251.0
BAT Industries	350.00	+200.0
British Airways	170.00	+178.0
British Petroleum	136.00	+178.0
British Steel	80.00	+172.0
British Airways	275.00	+166.0
British Airways	307.00	+162.0
British Airways	37.00	+156.0
British Airways	108.00	+151.0
British Airways	45.00	+148.0
British Airways	53.00	+147.0
British Airways	218.00	+147.0
British Airways	90.00	+147.0
British Airways	13.50	+147.0
British Airways	248.00	+146.0
British Airways	76.00	+142.0

LOSERS		
Company	Price	Percentage
Adam Leisure Grp	15.00	-84
Arifon Elect	38.00	-79
Avon Leisure	18.00	-78
Avon Leisure	28.00	-78
Avon Leisure	60.00	-76
Avon Leisure	3.75	-74
Avon Leisure	12.00	-74
Avon Leisure	47.00	-73
Avon Leisure	38.00	-73
Avon Leisure	5.50	-72
Avon Leisure	70.00	-72
Avon Leisure	34.00	-71
Avon Leisure	34.70	-70
Avon Leisure	5.00	-70
Avon Leisure	12.50	-70
Avon Leisure	18.00	-69
Avon Leisure	11.00	-69
Avon Leisure	90.00	-69
Avon Leisure	31.00	-66

advance. Its shares have risen from 50p to 290p. Many would argue that such a gain is justified on trading grounds. A shoe group which has evolved into a mini-international conglomerate under the direction of Mr Robert Rubin, Pentland is expected to achieve profits of £6 million this year against £1.7 million last year.

Illingworth, Morris, another textile group, enjoys fourth position. After a protracted struggle, Mr Alan Lewis acquired control. The self-effacing businessman's victory effectively ended a Hollywood-style boardroom struggle which involved, for a time, Mrs Pamela Mason, a former wife of the late James Mason.

Mrs Mason is a member of the family which dominated the British film industry in pre-war years and is an American television personality.

Both owe, at least in part,

their success to take-over bids. An offer for Booker came from the Dee Corporation and CHI is in the process of being acquired by Ladbroke Group.

It is, of course, an accurate reflection of the stock market's perversity that not a solitary member of this year's new broadly-based share index, the FT-SE 100, appears in the top 20.

In a year which has been dominated by American buying of British shares and takeovers, the exceptional gains have occurred among the lower ranks.

Even so, tidiers and leaders have, with splendid indifference, shrugged off such anxieties as the miners' strike (the previous one brought down a Tory government), crumbling sterling and declining oil price.

The FT 30 share index then neared 771.8 - a Saturday high of 771.8 - at Saturday at 924.3, having last week touched a new 942.6 record.

The fledgling FT-SE (Footsie) has also achieved new highs. It has moved between extremes of 1,233.6 and 978.7 in its first year's existence.

In a year which has left most investors feeling much richer, some are nursing unfortunate losses. For those who backed Adam Leisure Group, a computer games concern, the success of the British Telecom flotation and the gains many achieved when BAT make a successful, near-£1 billion bid for the Eagle Star Insurance group, is but a distant dream.

ALG, a US stock which came to market last year at 80p, now rests at 15p - representing a 84 per cent decline over the year. It is yet another casualty of the computer shake-out.

CIFER, another US computer stock, has the unenviable distinction of occupying the second spot among the losers and Arlen Electrical is third. Just to prove that misfortune suffers no restrictions, a show business company as well as a snooker firm and other computer stocks litter the losers' table.

But the most famous name among the minus-stocks is Johnson Matthey. The once-proud precious metals group, which has been crippled by its banking division, registers a 72 per cent fall at 70p.

Derek Pain and Pam Spooner



Zola Budd: embarrassing

Miss Budd's decision 'casting shadow over S African sport'

Pretoria (Reuters). - Zola Budd's decision to live in South Africa but run for Britain in the 1984 Olympic Games has cast a shadow over the two countries, a leading national athletics official said yesterday.

Professor Charles Newnoud, president of the South African Amateur Athletics Union, said he was concerned about a trust fund set up by the union's vice-president which is paying for Miss Budd to commute from South Africa to international events.

"Zola cannot have her cake and eat it," he said. "I think the whole situation has become an embarrassment to South Africa."

Not only to athletics but to sports as a whole.

Asked if it was straining relations between the sports governing bodies in Britain and South Africa, he replied: "It is definitely going to cause tension."

"As far as Britain is concerned, we have had good relations for many years, and this affair is casting a shadow over our athletics. I have 30,000 other athletes to look after."

The trust fund set up by the SAAAU vice-president, Jannie Mombert, was going to cause problems because it was administered by three South Africans, Professor Newnoud said. Under international rules such funds should be administered by

nationally of the country for whom the athlete competed, he said. "You can't have a British athlete having a fund administered here."

He said Miss Budd has to make a decision. "If she wants to compete internationally, she must go back to Britain, live in Britain, become part and parcel of the community. Otherwise, she will have to let her British citizenship go."

Professor Newnoud's indirect criticism of his vice-president follows allegations in British newspapers, widely quoted in South Africa, that Miss Budd is being used by SAAAU officials in their campaign against the sporting boycott over apartheid.

FOOTBALL AND RUGBY FIXTURES FOR BOXING DAY

3.00 first division

Liverpool v Leicester City (11.30)	Blackpool v Rochdale
Luton Town v Coventry City (11.30)	Bury v Port Vale (12.15)
Northwich City v Arsenal	Sheff Wed v Aston Villa (2.0)
Nottingham Forest v Ipswich Town	Southampton v Watford
QPR v Chelsea (11.30)	Stoke City v Manchester United
Sheff Wed v Aston Villa (2.0)	Sunderland v Everton
Tottenham v West Ham (11.30)	Tottenham v West Ham (11.30)
West Bromwich v Newcastle United	

Second division

Birmingham City v Grimsby Town	Blackburn Rovers v Leeds United
Brighton v Portsmouth (11.0)	Cardiff City v Middlesbrough
Carlisle United v Middlesbrough	Fulham v Sheffield United
Huddersfield v Chelsea	Millwall v Luton Town
Manchester City v Barnsley	Manchester City v Barnsley
Oxford United v Cardiff City	Sheff Wed v Aston Villa (2.0)
Sheff Wed v Aston Villa (2.0)	Wimbledon v Notts County

Third division

Bradford City v Doncaster Rovers	Bradford City v Doncaster Rovers
Blackpool v Rochdale	Bury v Port Vale (12.15)
Blackpool v Rochdale	Sheff Wed v Aston Villa (2.0)
Blackpool v Rochdale	Sheff Wed v Aston Villa (2.0)
Blackpool v Rochdale	Sheff Wed v Aston Villa (2.0)
Blackpool v Rochdale	Sheff Wed v Aston Villa (2.0)
Blackpool v Rochdale	Sheff Wed v Aston Villa (2.0)
Blackpool v Rochdale	Sheff Wed v Aston Villa (2.0)

Fourth division

Aldershot v Crewe Alexandra	Blackpool v Rochdale
Blackpool v Rochdale	Bury v Port Vale (12.15)
Blackpool v Rochdale	Sheff Wed v Aston Villa (2.0)
Blackpool v Rochdale	Sheff Wed v Aston Villa (2.0)
Blackpool v Rochdale	Sheff Wed v Aston Villa (2.0)
Blackpool v Rochdale	Sheff Wed v Aston Villa (2.0)
Blackpool v Rochdale	Sheff Wed v Aston Villa (2.0)
Blackpool v Rochdale	Sheff Wed v Aston Villa (2.0)

IN BRIEF

Bland keeps his nerve in play-off

Port Elizabeth, South Africa (AP) - John Bland, of South Africa, won a golf tournament here on Saturday with a birdie putt from nine feet in a play-off against fellow countryman Nick Price, who missed his own putt from half the distance. Bland and Price were tied at 277 (1-under-par) after 72 holes on the Humewood Golf Course.

TENNIS: John Lloyd is top seed in the Victoria Men's Open Championship which begins at Kooyung Stadium in Melbourne. Lloyd will face Jimmy Van Alken, seeded runner-up in the South Australian tournament, of Peter McNamara, the Australian Davis Cup player, in the second round.

ICE HOCKEY: Vladislav Tretiak, the Soviet goalie, refused to leave international competition yesterday after a match between Soviet Union and a European selection following the Izvestia tournament. Two other top Soviet goalies, Valery Vasiliev and Alexander Maltsev, retired at the same time. Tretiak, aged 32, won three Olympic gold medals in 1972, 1976 and 1980.

OLYMPIC GAMES: Melbourne will host the 1988 Olympic Games if they are held in the South Korean capital of Seoul as planned. The government announced yesterday that it would support the bid, which it has been reluctant to do so far. Relations with the North Korean government are still tense.

FOOTBALL: The Football Federation (FFF) yesterday elected Jean Fontaine-Farand as its new president, replacing Ferdinand Sastre. Fontaine-Farand is a former player and coach.

MOTOR RACING: Fiasco for the 1985 Australian Grand Prix. One grand prize from October 13 to November 3 have caused problems for race organizers. A spokesman said the postponement requested by the International Auto Sport Federation (IASF) would seriously inconvenience many people who had booked accommodation in Adelaide for October 13.

UNLISTED SECURITIES

Law Report December 24 1984

Capitalization	Company	Price	Chg	Gross Div	Yield	P/E
7,200,000	Alamo	18	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.5
6,000,000	Alamo	18	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.5
5,000,000	Alamo	18	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.5
4,000,000	Alamo	18	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.5
3,000,000	Alamo	18	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.5
2,000,000	Alamo	18	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.5
1,000,000	Alamo	18	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.5
500,000	Alamo	18	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.5
250,000	Alamo	18	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.5
125,000	Alamo	18	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.5
62,500	Alamo	18	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.5
31,250	Alamo	18	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.5
15,625	Alamo	18	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.5
7,812	Alamo	18	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.5
3,906	Alamo	18	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.5
1,953	Alamo	18	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.5
976	Alamo	18	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.5
488	Alamo	18	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.5
244	Alamo	18	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.5
122	Alamo	18	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.5
61	Alamo	18	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.5
30	Alamo	18	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.5
15	Alamo	18	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.5
7	Alamo	18	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.5
3	Alamo	18	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.5
1	Alamo	18	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.5
0.5	Alamo	18	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.5
0.25	Alamo	18	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.5
0.125	Alamo	18	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.5
0.0625	Alamo	18	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.5
0.03125	Alamo	18	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.5
0.015625	Alamo	18	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.5
0.0078125	Alamo	18	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.5
0.00390625	Alamo	18	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.5
0.001953125	Alamo	18	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.5
0.0009765625	Alamo	18	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.5
0.00048828125	Alamo	18	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.5
0.000244140625	Alamo	18	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.5
0.0001220703125	Alamo	18	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.5
0.00006103515625	Alamo	18	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.5
0.000030517578125	Alamo	18	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.5
0.0000152587890625	Alamo	18	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.5
0.00000762939453125	Alamo	18	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.5
0.000003814697265625	Alamo	18	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.5
0.0000019073486328125	Alamo	18	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.5
0.00000095367431640625	Alamo	18	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.5
0.000000476837158203125	Alamo	18	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.5
0.0000002384185791015625	Alamo	18	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.5
0.00000011920928955078125	Alamo	18	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.5
0.000000059604644775390625	Alamo	18	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.5
0.0000000298023223876953125	Alamo	18	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.5
0.00000001490116119384765625	Alamo	18	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.5
0.000000007450580596923828125	Alamo	18	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.5
0.0000000037252902984619140625	Alamo	18	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.5
0.00000000186264514923095703125	Alamo	18	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.5
0.000000000931322574615478515625	Alamo	18	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.5
0.0000000004656612873077392578125	Alamo	18	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.5
0.00000000023283064365386962890625	Alamo	18	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.5
0.000000000116415321826934814453125	Alamo	18	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.5
0.0000000000582076609134674072265625	Alamo	18	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.5
0.00000000002910383045673370361328125	Alamo	18	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.5
0.000000000014551915228366851806640625	Alamo	18	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.5
0.0000000000072759576141834259033203125	Alamo	18	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.5
0.00000000000363797880709171295166015625	Alamo	18	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.5
0.000000000001818989403545856475830078125	Alamo	18	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.5
0.0000000000009094947017729282379150390625	Alamo	18	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.5
0.00000000000045474735088646141895751953125	Alamo	18	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.5
0.000000000000227373675443230709478759765625	Alamo	18	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.5
0.0000000000001136868377216153547393798828125	Alamo	18	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.5
0.00000000000005684341886080767736968994140625	Alamo	18	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.5
0.000000000000028421709430403838684844970703125	Alamo	18	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.5
0.0000000000000142108547152019193424224853515625	Alamo	18	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.5
0.0000000000000071054273576009596712112242678125	Alamo	18	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.5
0.000000000000003552713678800479835605612134375	Alamo	18	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.5
0.0000000000000017763568394002399178028060671875	Alamo	18	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.5
0.00000000000000088817841970011995890140303359375	Alamo	18	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.5
0.000000000000000444089209850059979450701516796875	Alamo	18	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.5
0.0000000000000002220446049250299897253507583984375	Alamo	18	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.5
0.00000000000000011102230246251499486267537919921875	Alamo	18	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.5

Capitalization	Company	Price	Chg	Gross Div	Yield	P/E
12,500	Planchet	79	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.5
10,000	Planchet	79	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.5
8,000	Planchet	79	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.5
6,000	Planchet	79	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.5
4,000	Planchet	79	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.5
2,000	Planchet	79	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.5
1,000	Planchet	79	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.5
500	Planchet	79	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.5
250	Planchet	79	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.5
125	Planchet	79	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.5
62.5	Planchet	79	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.5
31.25	Planchet	79	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.5
15.625	Planchet	79	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.5
7.8125	Planchet	79	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.5
3.90625	Planchet	79	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.5
1.953125	Planchet	79	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.5
0.9765625	Planchet	79	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.5
0.48828125	Planchet	79	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.5
0.244140625	Planchet	79	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.5
0.1220703125	Planchet	79	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.5
0.06103515625	Planchet	79	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.5
0.030517578125	Planchet	79	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.5
0.0152587890625	Planchet	79	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.5
0.00762939453125	Planchet	79	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.5
0.003814697265625	Planchet	79	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.5
0.0019073486328125	Planchet	79	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.5
0.00095367431640625	Planchet	79	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.5
0.000476837158203125	Planchet	79	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.5
0.0002384185791015625	Planchet	79	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.5
0.00011920928955078125	Planchet	79	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.5
0.000059604644775390625	Planchet	79	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.5
0.0000298023223876953125	Planchet	79	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.5
0.00001490116119384765625	Planchet	79	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.5
0.000007450580596923828125	Planchet	79	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.5
0.0000037252902984619140625	Planchet	79	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.5
0.00000186264514923095703125	Planchet	79	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.5
0.000000931322574615478515625	Planchet	79	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.5
0.0000004656612873077392578125	Planchet	79	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.5
0.00000023283064365386962890625	Planchet	79	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.5
0.000000116415321826934814453125	Planchet	79	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.5
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0.00000002910383045673370361328125	Planchet	79	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.5
0.000000014551915228366851806640625	Planchet	79	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.5
0.0000000072759576141834259033203125	Planchet	79	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.5
0.00000000363797880709171295166015625	Planchet	79	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.5
0.000000001818989403545856475830078125	Planchet	79	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.5
0.0000000009094947017729282379150390625	Planchet	79	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.5
0.00000000045474735088646141895751953125	Planchet	79	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.5
0.000000000227373675443230709478759765625	Planchet	79	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.5
0.0000000001136868377216153547393798828125	Planchet	79	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.5
0.00000000005684341886080767736968994140625	Planchet	79	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.5
0.000000000028421709430403838684844970703125	Planchet	79	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.5
0.0000000000142108547152019193424224853515625	Planchet	79	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.5
0.0000000000071054273576009596712112242678125	Planchet	79	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.5
0.000000000003552713678800479835605612134375	Planchet	79	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.5
0.0000000000017763568394002399178028060671875	Planchet	79	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.5
0.00000000000088817841970011995890140303359375	Planchet	79	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.5
0.000000000000444089209850059979450701516796875	Planchet	79	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.5
0.0000000000002220446049250299897253507583984375	Planchet	79	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.5
0.00000000000011102230246251499486267537919921875	Planchet	79	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.5

Capitalization	Company	Price	Chg	Gross Div	Yield	P/E
10,000	Planchet	79	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.5
8,000	Planchet	79	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.5
6,000	Planchet	79	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.5
4,000	Planchet	79	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.5
2,000	Planchet	79	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.5
1,000	Planchet	79	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.5
500	Planchet	79	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.5
250	Planchet	79	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.5
125	Planchet	79	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.5
62.5	Planchet	79	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.5
31.25	Planchet	79	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.5
15.625	Planchet	79	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.5
7.8125	Planchet	79	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.5
3.90625	Planchet	79	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.5
1.953125	Planchet	79				

[illegible]

Brown's lament as Spurs go top

By Nicholas Harline

"It's down to me" Brown lamented. "Gregg has not been having too good a time lately and I took a gamble in playing him."

If the worst aspect about Norwich's temporary press box next to a corner flag is the distorted view of play when it is not obscured by the advertising boards, the best was a terrific close-up of the goal where Crooks scored his classic header.

It was at the same end that Norwich gained the penalty that put them back into the game with five minutes left. The ball was headed in by a sliding tackle from Van Wyck - who had come on for Downs. Although Deehan just beat Clemente's dive from the spot, that did not quite settle for the time being. The second half began 15 minutes earlier than passed game - minutes with the chance of doubling Spurs' lead severing his shot round Woods.

Mendham, the Norwich midfielder player put one almost wide of an upright, brought a flying save from Gordon, and then he was fouled and hit Gordon, his colleague, with a third.

Southampton should continue revival

By Paul Newman

Portsmouth 2
Oxford United 1

Portsmouth's supporters were not usually full of the Christmas spirit on Saturday when, with 12 minutes to go and trailing to Oxford United, they were told that the club's captain, Claus Lundekvam, had been injured. Lundekvam, who had been seen wandering on to the Oxford Park pitch as if looking for a fight, was taken to hospital by ambulance. But Portsmouth later said he would be singing praise to the Lord when Billy Bowerham came in to replace him on the field at half-time. It was enough to restore the club's faith in that elderly, bearded Norwegian.

Alan Ball, the Portsmouth goalkeeper, is already prepared to believe in such things, and not without some reason. This was the seventh time in their last eight seasons that Portsmouth had come on behind to get a result. "It's not hard to feel that no one can beat us," he said, a little too excitedly.

What this result did was question our faith in Oxford's ability to get back on track. After a consecutive failure to win away from home, pushed them out of the promotion position for the first time this season and lifted Portsmouth to second place. The heavy pile of goals were in evidence and Oxford's undoubted good footballing principles. Hebbard's touch was wayward, Brock never scrambled as we know he can. The striking qualities of Hamilton and Hebbard were in evidence and this could be said of most of the forwards. Lawrence looked more lively, but Tait stuck closer to him than the mud.

For some inexplicable reason, back passes were more strongly weighted than shots and both goalkeepers were more troubled by their defenders. It took 58 minutes to score the first goal. The strength to force the ball over the goal line and even then the goal

owed its creation to the unsung wall-painter of a defender.

From the moment the cross in Langan's blasting boat one is better hope for its arrival some hours later, and sure enough Brooking's boat came once again on the surface, the sail held in at the post.

Portsmouth, mindful of a physical supremacy and their own power of recovery, kept plodding forward and the *Mersey* was not far behind. In favourite with the Pompey crew had received an award from *Roy's* the *Rovers* newspaper before kick-off and dutifully fulfilled expectations with plunking headers.

Biggie, the crosser, did not flinch. When, with seconds left, Hamilton hit the crossbar it became difficult to separate fact from fiction.

Reference is made to the following: The *Mersey* A. Knight, G. Stanley, M. Tait, D. Lord, J. Steele, M. Widdowson, J. Webb, J. Kennedy, J. Morgan, A. Briggs, V. Helms, C. Christie, D. Langan, J. Webb, J. McDonald, J. Morris, E. Blythe, M. Shotton, L. Bowdman, J. Aldridge, W. Hamilton, T. Hobbs.

Reference is made to the following: (Brighton)

contin

By Pat

Three months ago it would have been almost unthinkable to consider Southampton as candidates for the first division championship. But McMenemy's team won only one of their first eight matches and by October they were fifth from the bottom of the table.

How times can change. After their 3-2 victory at West Ham United on Saturday, Southampton are now fifth from the top, having taken 27 points from their last 12 games. They also have an excellent chance to continue their revival over the forthcoming holiday period with home games against Watford and Sheffield Wednesday and an away match against Leicester City.

What is most remarkable is that Southampton's good fortunes on the pitch have coincided with problems off it. Williams, who wants a

Trafford on New Year's Day. Wednesday themselves kept up with the chasing group by winning 2-1 at home to Stoke.

Stoke instead a chance to go third by conceding an equalizer five minutes from time at home to Watford. They now face two away games before Tottenham Hotspur, their North London rivals. Visit Highbury on New Year's Day.

Stoke scored his eighth goal in nine full appearances; Taylor replied.

At the start of the season Aston Villa might have been expected to mount a challenge for the championship. In the last weeks they have struggled badly, Saturday's 4-0 win over Newcastle United, in which Rideout scored three goals, was only their second victory in 11

Belgium lose to Albania

By John Dongra

The race for the Scottish premier-
division has been thrown open by
the defeat at home of Aberdeen, the
leaders who a fortnight ago were
the favourites to win the prem-
ier championship. Although Celtic,
their closest challengers, could earn
only a 1-1 draw at Parkhead in yet
another fiercely contested
encounter, the gap to the maintenance
was eased when they discovered
Aberdeen had lost 1-0 to Dundee
on Saturday. As a result, Celtic have
secured Aberdeen's four-point lead
over the Rangers.

A goal by Gough led to
Aberdeen's defeat and it ended a
run of 25 home victories. Indeed,
the club had not lost at home since
a 1-0 defeat in Pittodrie 15 months ago.
In their victory was never in doubt,
or they were sharper and more
adventurous, and if their finishing
was not as accurate, they have
been more convincing victors.

Aberdeen, badly missing their
international central defender,
McLish, who is injured, once failed
to score in 10 games. But John
Ferguson, admitted that his
side "never played at all". "It was a
particularly bad result for us after
the previous week's defeat at home

two weeks ago. We have now lost
that advantage", he said.

Celtic, however, again played like
a team beset with worries, still
haunted by the fear of severe
punishment from UEFA should the
crowd trouble at Old Trafford.

Although they started in style,
McClair opening the scoring in nine
minutes, they faded after the
interval. Splendid goalkeeping by
Bonner, who saved a penalty taken
by Gough, and the following of
full points for Celtic but, with only
five minutes to go, the Republic of
Ireland international made his one
mistake of the afternoon, pushing a
ball into his own net. The work of
Cooper, who had the easy task of
qualifying.

Although they played with
distinction, neither Dundee United
nor Rangers, who are far behind the
leaders, are given much chance of
winning the title. Celtic have the
challenge for the title.

But they will have a big say in the
destination of the championship.
United met Celtic on Saturday at
Pittodrie and they may play the
decider for the title again at Ibrox in the New Year.

Barnsey, the second division promotion hopefuls, bounced back in the second half with Green's goal finally reducing the arrears but they had four players booked—Joyce, Fletcher, Wyldie and Ronson.

Hereford 2 Aldershot 1

Goals by Kearns and Phillips took Hereford back to the top of the table. Aldershot's only consolation was an 86th-minute penalty by McDonald, and a header by McCulloch which hit the post.

Belgium lose to Albania

Tirana (Reuter).—Goals by Jordan and Mingeo gave Albania an unexpected 2-0 victory over Belgium in the World Cup group one qualifying match on Saturday. Albania attacked from the start but were unable to penetrate the Belgian defence until the 69th minute when a shot from the left wing had been deflected to him by the goalkeeper Pfaff. Three minutes before the finish Mingeo ensured victory when he scored.

Tirana, Feb 5 (Reuter).

Forest avenge their Milk Cup defeat

by John Dongra

pening half hour Sunderland launched attacks that might have set goals from Hodgson, Chisholm and West before Forest unexpectedly took the lead in the 38th minute. Wigley made ground on the right and despite the close attentions of Berry, managed to cross the ball to the far post where Hart nodded it down to Davenport who touched it in to Christie. He forced it over the goal-line as Turner dived at his feet.

The second half was largely a repeat of the first, with Sunderland keeping away at the Forest goal without ever suggesting that they knew how to make the decisive breakthrough.

There were impressive performances from Metgod and Bowyer both of whose great experience steadied Forest at critical moments. And it was fitting that Metgod should play a big part in Forest's second goal which came in the final seconds of a hard match.

Wigley passed to Metgod at the then ran on down the right for the Dutchman's return before drawing Turner and scoring from another angle.

SUNDERLAND: C Turner; B Venison; N Pickering; G Barnett; G Chisholm; S Brown; J Wood; H Gayle; C West; M Roberts; C Walker.

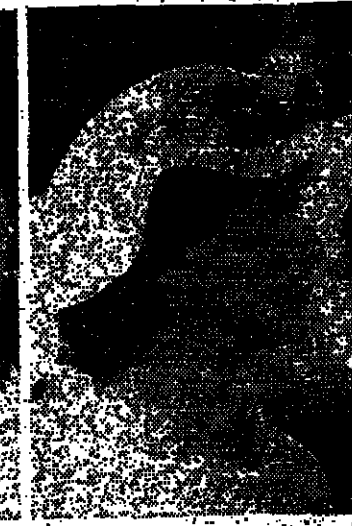
NOTTINGHAM FOREST: H Rogers; J Bowyer; K Swan; C Fairclough; P Hart; I Mowbray; J Wigley; J Metgod; V Christie; P Dewhurst; S Hodge.

Referee: Sam Currie.

First division										Second division										Third division										Fourth division										Scottish premier division										Scottish first division										Scottish second division										European leagues																													
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Christmas Television: Today and Tomorrow

Summaries by Peter Dear and Peter Davalle



● Tinseltown, Toad and Tommy: Left to right - Val Doonican (BBC 1, 10.00 pm); Toad of Toad Hall (The Wind in the Willows, ITV, 5.15 pm); and Tommy Steele and Carol Barracough (Jim'll Fix It for Christmas, BBC 1, 6.15 pm).

● Ronnie's, Romance and Rippon: Left to right - Ernie Wise and Angela Rippon (Bring Me Sunshine, ITV, 6.00 pm); Tracey Ullman and John Harding (The Young Visitors, Channel 4, 3.20 pm); and Barker and Corbett (BBC 1, 8.55 pm).

BBC 1

6.00 *Cee-fax* AM.
6.30 Breakfast Time with Frank Bough and Selina Scott. News from Fern Britton at 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00 and 8.30 with headlines on the quarter hours and at 8.55; regional news, weather and traffic at 8.45, 7.15, 7.45 and 8.15; programme choice at 8.55; a review of the morning newspapers at 7.18 and 8.18. Plus Glenn Christian's tips for Christmas dinner; Diana Moran keeping trim; and guest Keith Harris with Orville.
9.00 *Barker's Christmas Story*. Episode one of a three-part story, 9.15 Paddington and the Christmas Shopping (I), 9.20 Lassie. The first of a new animated series featuring the canine canine, 9.45 *Charlie Brown* (I).
10.10 *Jackanory*. Cherie Lunghi reads the story of Cinderella 10.25 *Magpie Roundabout* (I) 10.30 *Play School*, presented by Carol Chell 10.50 *Henry's Cat* (I) 10.55 *The Chuckleheads Christmas*.
11.05 *The Sound of 84*. Music from the Montreux Pop Festival. 12.05 *Wait Till Your Father Gets Home*. A Hanna-Barbera cartoon.
12.30 *News with Moira Stuart* 12.35 *Junior Kick Start*. The first of a new three-hour competition 1.00 *Kung Fu*, starring David Carradine 1.15 *The Christmas Raccoons*. A musical cartoon (I).
2.15 *Film: The Cruel Sea* (1952) starring Jack Hawkins. Second World War drama about a Royal Navy corvette and its part in the battle for the Atlantic. Directed by Charles Frend.
4.15 *Pop Quiz Christmas Special*, introduced by Mike Read 4.45 *Jackanory*. Jeremy Irons reads Paul Gallico's *Snowflake*.
5.00 *Blue Peter* includes the latest news of the *Lifesaver Appeal* (Cee-fax). 5.25 *The Box of Delights*. The final episode (Cee-fax).
6.00 *News with Moira Stuart*.
6.15 *Jim'll Fix It for Christmas*. The young and the not so young have their dreams come true including a nine-year-old singing with Tommy Steele and a 91-year-old playing darts with John Lowe.
6.55 *Film: One of Our Dinosaurs is Missing* (1975) starring Peter Ustinov. Chinese secret agents steal the skeleton of a dinosaur from the Natural History Museum because a secret microfilm has been hidden among the bones. Directed by Robert Stevenson (Cee-fax).
8.25 *Only Fools and Horses*. Del is smitten by the lovely Heather and goes as far as buying a ring. But events do not go according to plan (I).
8.55 *Cagney and Lacey*. Mary Beth is held hostage by a crazed killer in a railway sidings.
9.45 *News with Moira Stuart*.
10.00 *Val Doonican's Very Special Christmas* with guests Engelbert Humperdinck, Pam Ayres and the Cambridge Buskers.
10.50 *Play: Angela in the Annex*, by Janey Proger. Sibylla McKenna and Alfred Molina star as two school teachers with different points of view as to how to present the Nativity play. The man, the new headmaster, wants to break away from the usual format but Miss Jarvis who has been producing the play for 35 years, disagrees.
11.45 *Midnight Mass of the Nativity* from the Church of St Mary and St John, Wolverhampton.
12.45 *Weather*.

BBC 2

9.00 *Cee-fax*.
1.45 *On the Tracks of the Wild Otter*. A documentary, three years in the making, about Shetland otters. Made by Hugh Miles (I).
2.35 *Film: The Gold Rush* (1925) starring Charlie Chaplin. Perhaps Chaplin's best-known film and certainly one of his funniest. He plays a gold prospector who joins the rush to Alaska. Written, produced and directed by Charlie Chaplin.
3.45 *Telly Quiz* presented by Jerry Stevens.
4.15 *The First Noels*. The final part of the series tracing the history of Christmas carols, presented by Sir Gerald Evans with the choir and congregation of Peterborough Cathedral and the choir of Christ Church Cathedral, Oxford.
4.35 *Alias St Nick*. Cartoon.
4.45 *Film: Little Women* (1949) starring June Allyson, Margaret O'Brien, Elizabeth Taylor and Janet Leigh. Louise May Alcott's classic tale of four sisters growing up in mid-19th century United States. Directed by Mervyn Leroy.
5.40 *Long Beach Olympiad*. Ray Moore is the narrator of this documentary about the 1984 Olympic Yachting Regatta.
7.30 *News summary* with subtitles.
7.35 *Born in Bethlehem*. The BBC Welsh Chorus with Alad Jones (treble) sing songs about the Nativity from the actual site in Bethlehem. The reader is Isla Blair and the narrator Martin Jarvis.
8.25 *Lena Horne: The Lady and Her Music* (BBC 2 8.25pm).
8.55 *Lena Horne: The Lady and Her Music*. The hit one-woman show that won for the peerless singer a Tony Award, recorded in New York. A musical and anecdotal reminiscence of a highly successful career that began at Harlem's Cotton Club and led to Miss Horne being the first black performer to be offered a long-term Hollywood contract.
10.00 *Film: The Quiet Man* (1952) starring John Wayne, Maureen O'Hara and Barry Fitzgerald. One of Wayne's better known films, one in which he plays a local West of Ireland boy who returns home after making a success of his life in the United States. But his original intention to lead the quiet life is thwarted by Mary Kate Danaher and by one of the famous film fights that spreads up hill and down dale eventually involving the villagers and ending up at the local bar. Directed by John Ford. Ends at 12.10.

CHANNEL 4

2.00 *Los Villancicos*. A series of dramatic cantatas composed by the 18th century Spanish monk, Antonio Soler. They are performed by Luis Alvarez, baritone, with a Spanish choir and the Arthur Haas Ensemble (I).
3.30 *Wet Paint*. A tour of Brussels set to the music of Ravel's *Saatche Riche Fanfare*.
3.55 *Class of '39*. A documentary about the original members of the Vienna Boys' Choir, formed by Dr Georg Gruber, a choirmaster, and Mrs Marsh, an eccentric and wealthy entrepreneur. In 1939, the choir began with a successful tour of the United States and were following up that success in Australia when war was declared and they found themselves detained in a foreign and hostile country.
5.30 *Greenland - the Vikings Return*. ITV reporter Sam Hall on the replica of a Viking ship as it sails from Norway to Iceland and through the ice of Greenland as it traces the voyage made by Vikings more than a 1,000 years ago.
6.00 *Film: Dark River* (1984) A children's film unit production about a group of children who live in an isolated valley surrounded by an impenetrable wasteland, threatened by the mysterious Moonchildren.
7.30 *News summary* and weather.
7.35 *Making a Splash*. Peter Greenaway's documentary about all forms of water, shot on locations ranging from the wilds of North Wales to the warm seas of the South of France (I).
8.00 *Brookside*. Terry's Christmas is an unhappy one when he learns that Michelle is going to a New Year's Eve party with the nurses, while Sheila is rushed to hospital in the taxi hired for Annabelle's catering.
8.30 *The Mating Call*. Joe Regalbuto, Ian Lavender and Jane Chadwick star in this sitcom about an American reporter working in London who is off to his average. His friends Jonathan and Katie try to give him support as he struggles with his tangled emotions in his search for the reasons for his decidedly average success, and they introduce him to Joan. She is beautiful, intelligent and for him it is love at first sight. Can he pull himself out of his rut of ordinariness in an effort to win the girl's affections?
9.00 *Placido*. A documentary about a year in the life of Placido Domingo as he sings in every major opera house in the world. Among those featured is his Tosca in Barcelona; with Kiri Te Kanawa in a London production of *Manon Lescaut*; and with Charles Aznavour in a Paris television spectacular.
10.45 *Ian Breckwell's Christmas Diary*. The poor man's thinker reflects on Victorian values.
10.55 *Film: A Place of One's Own* (1945) starring James Mason and Margaret Lockwood. The famous ghost story by Ogburn Stowell about a middle-aged couple, on the verge of retirement, who buy a run-down house at what, at first, seems a bargain price. Directed by Bernard Knowles.
12.40 *Closedown*.

TV-am

6.25 *Good Morning Britain* presented by Anne Diamond and Nick Owen. News with Gordon Honeycombe at 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30 and 9.00; sport at 6.30, and 7.37; exercises at 6.45 and 8.20; pop video at 7.54; astrology at 8.15; programme highlights at 8.34.
9.25 *Thames news headlines* followed by Father Murphy in which he and Mae become involved with a young man's gambling debts 10.15 *Cartoon Time* (I).
10.30 *Film: Benji* (1974) Adventures of a rascally and independent dog who lives alone in a large, deserted house. Directed by Joe Camp.
12.00 *FreeTime Christmas Special*. 12.30 *Goodwill to All Men*. The birth of Christ celebrated seen through the eyes of a miner and his family and through the eyes of the clergy for whom the miners' strike has posed a moral dilemma. News at One with Carol Barnes 1.20 *Thames news* from Robin Houston 1.30 *The Birth of Christ*. Oliver Hurkin discusses the birth of Christ as depicted by the Old Masters (Cee-fax).
1.45 *Scene and Mrs King*. The two American secret agents help to coax a spy back into the fold after being in the cold for 23 years (Cee-fax).
2.40 *Take Over*, presented by Brough Scott. Four members of the public are joined by Suzanne Danielle, Sally James, Peter Davidson and Derek Thompson and they test their skill with a simulator in landing Concorde and driving a Scorpion reconnaissance vehicle.
3.10 *Film: The Return of the Pink Panther* (1974) starring Peter Sellers and Christopher Plummer. Can Inspector Clouseau solve the mystery of the stolen jewel? Directed by Blake Edwards (Cee-fax).
5.15 *The Wind in the Willows*. Toad dominates the festivities at Toad Hall.
5.45 *News*. 6.00 *Thames news*.
6.25 *Help! Vir Taylor* Gae with community action news.
6.35 *Cyberroads*. Kath Brownlow receives a surprise visitor.
7.00 *What's My Line?* Christmas Special. Eamonn Andrews' panel this evening consists of George Gale, Barbara Kelly, Jill Cooper, Ernie Wise and Patrick Mower.
7.30 *Coronation Street*. (Cee-fax).
8.00 *Jim Davidson's Falklands Special*. The story of comedian Jim Davidson's journey to the Falklands where he entertained the troops and the islanders.
9.00 *Film: Fan with Dick and Jane* (1977) starring Jane Fonda and George Segal. Comedy about an aerospace executive with a family and large mortgage who is suddenly made redundant. Attempts at finding another job come to nothing so he turns to a life of crime (Cee-fax).
10.40 *News*.
10.50 *Joy to the World*. David Pickering, the 12-year-old Chorister of the Year, is the host for a magical journey to Christmas past and back to the present.
11.40 *The Blessing of the Crib and the First Mass of Christmas* from the Church of John the Baptist, Newcastle upon Tyne. *Closedown*.
12.40 *Closedown*.

BBC 1

8.00 *Cee-fax*.
8.40 *Play School*, presented by Carol Chell 9.00 *Barker's Christmas Story*. Christopher Clippard with part two of the up-dated story of the Nativity, 9.15 *Born in Bethlehem*. Popstar carols sung by the BBC Welsh Chorus in Bethlehem (shown yesterday).
10.05 *Christmas Morning Family Service* from Fishwick Presbyterian Church, Belfast 11.03 *Weather*.
11.05 *The Noel Edwards Live Live Christmas Breakfast Show* from the top of the British Telecom Tower.
12.35 *Film: Blue Murder* at St Trinian's (1967) starring Alastair Sim, Joyce Grenfell, George Cole and Terry Thomas. Mayhem at a girls' school whose pupils have got out of hand and the Army is called in. Directed by Frank Launder.
2.00 *Top of the Pops Christmas Special* featuring the top sounds of 1984 introduced in the studio by Culture Club, Jim Diamond, Duran Duran, Frankie Goes to Hollywood, Howard Jones, Nik Kershaw, Thompson Twins, Wham! and Paul Young.
3.00 *The Queen speaks to the Commonwealth* (Cee-fax).
3.10 *Film: Mary Poppins* (1964) starring Julie Andrews, Dick Van Dyke, David Tomlinson and Glynis Johns. Light-hearted story of a remarkable children's nanny. Directed by Robert Stevenson (first showing on British television) (Cee-fax).
5.25 *News with Jan Leeming*.
5.30 *Christmas Blankety Blank*. Les Dawson's panel consists of Suzanne Danielle, Sally James, Peter Davidson and Derek Thompson and they test their skill with a simulator in landing Concorde and driving a Scorpion reconnaissance vehicle.
6.05 *Hi-de-Hi!* The final visit of the series to Maples and Spike decides to retire Clive's motor car and switch to a look alike with the winner is announced (Cee-fax).
6.35 *The Paul Daniels Magic Christmas Show* with guests George Carl, a clown from Chicago; Kris Kremy, a high-speed juggler from Las Vegas; and the Olympians, a balancing act from Germany.
7.25 *Just Good Friends*. Penny has at last seen the light and decides that her future is not with Vince. In this extended edition Penny reflects on what happened to the couple before the television series began.
8.55 *The Two Ronnies*. Sketches, jokes and songs from Messrs Barker and Corbett and their guests, Elaine Paige, Patrick Troughton, John Owens and Gerrie Rynam. Appearing in the film story, *The Ballad of Snivelling and Grudge* are Peter Wyngarde (as Sir Guy), Michael Cretney, Daryl Debeau, Ron Pember, John Carr and Derek Wile.
9.55 *News with Jan Leeming*.
10.05 *Wogan*. Terry Wogan's guests are Freddie Starr, Dame Kiri Te Kanawa, Elton John and Victoria Principal.
10.55 *Film: Some Like It Hot* (1959) starring Jack Lemmon and Tony Curtis. Classic comedy about two musicians who witness the St Valentine's Day Massacre and take refuge from the searching mobsters by joining, in drag, an all-women band; among whose members is Sugar (Marlyn Monroe). Produced and Directed by Billy Wilder (Cee-fax).
12.50 *Weather*.

BBC 2

8.00 *Cee-fax*.
1.55 *Film: A Dog's Life* (1918) starring Charlie Chaplin. The 'Tramp' is joined by Scraps, a mongrel. Both are very much down on their luck. Written and directed by Charlie Chaplin.
2.35 *Polar Bear Alert*. A documentary about the Bear Patrol of Churchill, Manitoba, a town that receives regular visits from the polar bears of the Hudson Bay when the ice begins to melt (I).
3.25 *Film: Limelight* (1936) starring Charlie Chaplin and Claire Bloom. The moving tale of a has-been music hall comedian and the friendship he forms with a young ballerina he saves from suicide. With Buster Keaton. Written, produced and directed by Charlie Chaplin.
5.35 *Telly Quiz* presented by Jerry Stevens.
6.05 *The Kipper*. Scottish Ballet's production of Tchaikovsky's famous ballet, starring Elaine McDonald as the Sugar Plum Fairy, Davids Bombarda as the Prince and Norfolk Chant as the Snow Queen. Recorded at the Theatre Royal, Glasgow, with the Scottish Ballet Orchestra, conducted by Terence Kern.
7.50 *The Master of Moulton*. Russell Harty makes a pilgrimage to the Medoc to meet Baron Philippe de Rothschild at the Chateau Mouton. The Baron, as well as being the driving force and the custodian of the family vineyards, is a noted racing driver, a first-class yachtsman, a successful film director, holder of the Croix de Guerre and a man of letters.
8.40 *The Queen speaks to the Commonwealth* (shown on BBC 1 at 3.00pm).
8.55 *Film: Kurosawa* (1984) starring Omero Antonutti and Margherita Lozano. The dramatization of four of Luigi Pirandello's short stories, set against the harsh landscapes of Sicily, and an epilogue, an imagined episode from the writer's own life. The tales are of love, sorrow and laughter mixed with Sicily's own brand of superstition and irony. Written and directed by Paolo and Vittorio Taviani (first showing on British television). Ends at 12.00.
12.50 *Weather*.

CHANNEL 4

11.10 *Il Poverello - The Story of St. Francis of Assisi*. Robert Labig narrates the story of the 12th century friar from a remote part of Italy who has remained in the religious limelight the eight centuries since his death (I).
12.00 *Film: The Custard Boys* (1979). A remarkable film made by 11 to 12-year olds of Forest Hill Comprehensive School that tells the story of a group of schoolboys who are evacuated from London during the Blitz of 1942 to the East Anglian countryside - a world they do not know and for which they show little respect. Directed by Colin Finbow.
1.30 *The Workmen*. A full of images and ideas.
1.50 *Film: Jour de Fête* (1949) starring Jacques Tati. A brilliant comedy about a village postman who likes to take things easy and because of this is the butt of other villagers' jokes. Needled by being compared to the United States postal service, he decides to show how efficient he can be. Directed by Jacques Tati.
3.20 *Film: The Young Visitors*. A made-for-television adaptation of the novel by Daisy Ashford who wrote the tale when nine years of age. The story concerns the elderly (aged 42), Alfred Saltzman who lives giving house parties and one of his guests, the daughter, Bernard Clark. Starring Tracey Ullman, Carin Radford, Kenny Ireland and John Harding. Directed by James Hill.
5.00 *The Queen addresses the Commonwealth*.
5.10 *Glassie*. The Kirov Ballet perform one of the classics of the ballet repertoire. Recorded at the Kirov Theatre in Leningrad, the title role is danced by Galina Mazurekova with Konstantin Zakharenko as Alonzo. Set by Marius Petipa.
7.10 *News summary* and weather followed by *Let's Dance*, a showcase for the many talents of the German comic, living proof that the Germans do not lack a sense of humour.
8.00 *Brookside*. Christmas Day in the Close and Marie puts on a brave face although she desperately misses the temporarily incarcerated George.
8.30 *See How They Run*. A small screen version of the hit West End comedy about the frantic goings-on in a country vicarage during the Second World War. Starring Michael Denison, Lisa Goddard, Maureen Lipman, Derek Nimmo and Christopher Timothy.
10.00 *Jean Sibelius*. A two-part documentary about the life of the composer. In *The Early Years* and *Maturity and Silence* most of the music is performed by the Swedish Radio Symphony Orchestra conducted by Vladimir Ashkenazy. There are also songs by Elisabeth Soderstrom, accompanied by Sibelius's violin concerto, played by Boris Belkin.
11.55 *Ian Breckwell's Christmas Diary*. The poor man's thinker reviews the events of the year.
12.15 *Closedown*.

TV-am

6.25 *Good Morning Britain's Christmas Party* begins with cartoon special. News with Gordon Honeycombe at 7.00, 8.00 and 8.30. The programme includes a message for Christmas from the Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Robert Runcie.
8.25 *Dangerous Double Bill* with the voices of David Jason, Terry Scott, Edward Kelley and Brian Trueman (I) 8.45 *Thames the Bull Engine and Friends*. Ringo Starr with more tales from the pen of the Rev Awdry 9.55 *Emm* at Christmas.
10.35 *The Christmas Morning Service* from St George's Chapel, Windsor, introduced by Sir Anastasius Burnett.
11.45 *Film: Bugs Bunny's Looney Movie* (1981) A three-part film starring the carrot-loving adventurer 1.15 *Top Pop Videos* of '84.
2.00 *Jayne Torvill and Christopher Dean Special*. Simon Reid introduces this tribute to the perfect skaters. The programme follows the development of their technique over the past four years and includes excerpts never before seen on television.
3.00 *The Queen addresses the Commonwealth*.
8.10 *Film: The Man with the Golden Gun* (1974) starring Roger Moore as James Bond. In this globe-trotting adventure James Bond is on the trail of Scaramanga, the man with the golden gun who has stolen a device that is the key to harnessing the sun's energy. Directed by Guy Hamilton (Cee-fax).
8.25 *News*.
8.30 *Give Us a Clue: Celebrity mine game*, presented by Michael Aspel. Subbie's team is Julia McKenzie, Nicola Pequet and Julie Walters. On Lionel Blair's side are Spike Milligan, Wayne Sleep and Bernie Winters (Cee-fax).
6.00 *Bring Me Sunshine - A Tribute to Eric Morecambe*. OBE. The best of home grown entertainment talent in a special, introduced by Ernie Wise, from the London Palladium, in the presence of the Duke of Edinburgh, in aid of the British Heart Foundation (Cee-fax).
8.30 *Film: Raiders of the Lost Ark* (1981) starring Harrison Ford and Karen Allen. Indiana Jones, an archaeologist who has just had a brush with death in the South American jungles, makes for Egypt when he hears that Nazi (it is 1936) treasure hunters are rumoured to have found the fabled ark containing the Well of Souls. Directed by Steven Spielberg.
10.40 *News*.
10.45 *Des O'Connor Tonight*. Music and chat from the entertainer and his guests who include Hank Marvin and Mirella Freni.
11.35 *Film: Home for the Holidays* (1972) A made-for-television thriller about four daughters who return to the family home for the first time in nine years to find the house held in the memory of a homicidal maniac. Starring Walter Brennan. Directed by John Llewellyn Moxey.
12.50 *Pease, Gill Nevill* meets some of the people who are attempting to bring peace to different parts of the globe.
1.00 *Closedown*.

BBC 1 WALES: 12.45am News and weather. **SCOTLAND:** 11.45 12.30am *Watchnight Service* from St. Giles' Cathedral, Edinburgh. 12.30 News and weather. **NORTHERN IRELAND:** 12.45am News and weather.
S4C: Starts 12.45pm Yr Eiddiad 12.55 *Citizen 2000*. 1.25 *Film: Home at Seven* (Ralph Richardson). 2.55 *Film: Holly and the Ivy* (Ralph Richardson). 4.25 *Oh! Dae*. 4.45 *Ysgolfaeth*. 5.15 *Symffyl*. 6.20 *Armydd*. 6.30 *Can Gychau*. 7.20 *Newyddion*. 8.40 *Mawr y Plant*. 9.10 *Mart Crysbeth*. 10.40 *Carols for Christmas*. 11.35 *Y Nadolig Newydd*. 12.50 *Closedown*.
HTV WALES: As HTV West except at Sw.
HTV: As London except 9.25am *Sesame Street*. 10.25-10.30 *Cartoon*. 10.30-10.35 *North Tonight*. 11.40 *Watchnight Service* from Motherwell. 12.40am *Closedown*.

REGIONAL TELEVISION VARIATIONS
TYNE TEES: As London except 9.25am *Sesame Street*. 10.25-10.30 *Cartoon*. 1.20pm-1.30 *News*. 6.02 *Crossroads*. 6.25-7.00 *News*. 12.40am *Star* of Bethlehem. *Closedown*.
BORDER: As London except 9.25am *Sesame Street*. 10.25-10.30 *Cartoon*. 1.20pm-1.30 *News*. 6.02 *Crossroads*. 6.25-7.00 *News*. 12.40am *Star* of Bethlehem. *Closedown*.
SCOTTISH: As London except 9.25am *Sesame Street*. 10.25-10.30 *Cartoon*. 1.20pm-1.30 *News*. 6.02 *Crossroads*. 6.25-7.00 *News*. 12.40am *Star* of Bethlehem. *Closedown*.
GRAMPIAN: As London except 9.25am *Sesame Street*. 10.25-10.30 *Cartoon*. 1.20pm-1.30 *News*. 6.02 *Crossroads*. 6.25-7.00 *News*. 12.40am *Star* of Bethlehem. *Closedown*.
YORKSHIRE: As London except 9.25am *Sesame Street*. 10.25-10.30 *Cartoon*. 1.20pm-1.30 *News*. 6.02 *Crossroads*. 6.25-7.00 *News*. 12.40am *Star* of Bethlehem. *Closedown*.
GRANADA: As London except 9.25am *Sesame Street*. 10.25-10.30 *Cartoon*. 1.20pm-1.30 *News*. 6.02 *Crossroads*. 6.25-7.00 *News*. 12.40am *Star* of Bethlehem. *Closedown*.
CENTRAL: As London except 9.25am *Sesame Street*. 10.25-10.30 *Cartoon*. 1.20pm-1.30 *News*. 6.02 *Crossroads*. 6.25-7.00 *News*. 12.40am *Star* of Bethlehem. *Closedown*.
TVS: As London except 9.25am *Sesame Street*. 10.25-10.30 *Cartoon*. 1.20pm-1.30 *News*. 6.02 *Crossroads*. 6.25-7.00 *News*. 12.40am *Star* of Bethlehem. *Closedown*.

ULSTER: As London except 1.20pm-1.30 *Lunchtime*. 6.00-6.30 *Good Evening Ulster*. 12.40am *Closedown*.
TSW: As London except Starts 12.45pm. 1.20pm-1.30 *Cartoon*. 1.20pm-1.30 *News*. 6.02 *Crossroads*. 6.25-7.00 *News*. 12.40am *Star* of Bethlehem. *Closedown*.
ANGLIA: As London except 9.25am *Sesame Street*. 10.25-10.30 *Cartoon*. 1.20pm-1.30 *News*. 6.02 *Crossroads*. 6.25-7.00 *News*. 12.40am *Star* of Bethlehem. *Closedown*.
CHANNEL: As London except 9.25am *Sesame Street*. 10.25-10.30 *Cartoon*. 1.20pm-1.30 *News*. 6.02 *Crossroads*. 6.25-7.00 *News*. 12.40am *Star* of Bethlehem. *Closedown*.
WHAT THE SYMBOLS MEAN
★ Stereo. ★ Black and white. ★ Repeat

REGIONAL TELEVISION VARIATIONS
S4C: Starts 12.50 *Ffalebiol*. 1.05 *This is Glynis*. 2.55 *Queen's Message*. 3.10 *Film: Dark Entry*. Children's adventure. 6.25 *Brookside*. 5.30 *Ffalebiol*. 5.45 *Tribwyl Yr Hydref*. 6.15 *Y Symffyl Nadolig*. 6.40 *Superad*. 6.50 *Pa Fo! Fo!*. 7.20 *Newyddion*. 7.30 *Caryl*. 8.00 *Cemus*. 8.40 *Gogoront Yn Y Goruchaf*. 9.55 *Mating Call*. 10.25 *Peddie*. Year in the Life of Peddie Domingo. 12.10am *Closedown*.
CENTRAL: No variation.
TSW: As London except 12.50am *Postscript*. *Closedown*.
CHANNEL: As London except 12.50am *Weather* and *Closedown*.

GRAMPIAN: As London except 9.25am *Sesame Street*. 10.25-10.30 *Cartoon*. 1.20pm-1.30 *News*. 6.02 *Crossroads*. 6.25-7.00 *News*. 12.40am *Star* of Bethlehem. *Closedown*.
GRAMADA: No variation.
HIV WEST: No variation.
YORKSHIRE: No variation.
ANGLIA: No variation.
TVS: As London except 12.50am *Christmas Company*, followed by *Closedown*.

TYNE TEES: As London except 9.25am *Sesame Street*. 10.25-10.30 *Cartoon*. 1.20pm-1.30 *News*. 6.02 *Crossroads*. 6.25-7.00 *News*. 12.40am *Star* of Bethlehem. *Closedown*.
ULSTER: No variation.
BORDER: As London except 9.25am *Sesame Street*. 10.25-10.30 *Cartoon*. 1.20pm-1.30 *News*. 6.02 *Crossroads*. 6.25-7.00 *News*. 12.40am *Star* of Bethlehem. *Closedown*.
SCOTTISH: As London except 9.25am *Sesame Street*. 10.25-10.30 *Cartoon*. 1.20pm-1.30 *News*. 6.02 *Crossroads*. 6.25-7.00 *News*. 12.40am *Star* of Bethlehem. *Closedown*.

BELL'S

SCOTCH WHISKY

هكذا من الراحل